

PHOTO
COMPETITION
2025

Win a day out with our Photo Team

See fulmars
in flight at
Tantallon Castle

HISTORIC SCOTLAND

SUMMER 2025 THE MAGAZINE FOR HISTORIC SCOTLAND MEMBERS

Scotland on
the frontline
How historic sites
helped win the war

3
EXCLUSIVE
EVENTS
Head behind
the scenes!

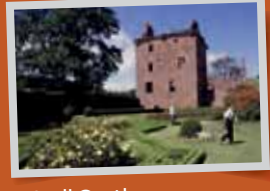
Go wild at Tantallon Castle

PLUS 19 more wonderful ways
to connect with nature

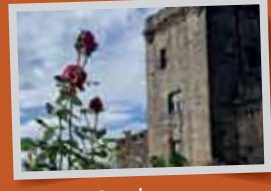
Discover our glorious gardens this summer



Aberdour Castle



Edzell Castle



Stirling Castle



Dirleton Castle



Food and drink
at Stirling Castle



Welcome to HISTORIC SCOTLAND

“ Summer is here and the longer, warmer days are perfect for adventures at our historic sites across the nation.

This issue there's a host of great ways to get closer to nature, from spotting dragonflies at Caerlaverock Castle and bat-watching at Linlithgow Loch to roving with our Rangers at Tantallon Castle and Blackness Castle. We have a quartet of beautiful gardens to explore too (page 22).

Our ever-popular events Spectacular Jousting and Celebration of the Centuries are back, and you can find out more on our Events pages from page 52.

Elsewhere, we celebrate Glasgow's 850th birthday with events taking place at Glasgow Cathedral (page 12). And we shine a spotlight on the legend and legacy of St Tenew, mother of the city's patron saint, St Mungo (page 30).

We pay tribute to heritage sites that played a key role in the Second World War as part of VE Day commemorations (page 42). Our time traveller also returns, this time vying for the title of star baker in the heat of Stirling Castle's Great Kitchens bakehouse (page 36).

We're excited to share our new and exclusive Urquhart Castle tartan collection launched in spring (page 48) – see page 8 for a chance to win one of three special hampers.

And finally, get your cameras at the ready as we launch our Members' Photography Competition 2025 on page 18. We can't wait to see your pictures of epic days out!

Claire Bowie

CLAIRE BOWIE
Head of Membership & CRM

MEDIEVAL MAGIC

Spectacular Jousting is back for another season, so canter off with the troops to Linlithgow Palace this June or Caerlaverock Castle in July. It's one of our top summer highlights for very good reason and not to be missed.

● Turn to page 52 for further details.



CONTRIBUTORS



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is a Ranger based at Holyrood Park and Linlithgow. He enjoys being outdoors for work and in his spare time.
PAGE 22



REBECCA SHARP
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PAGE 30



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PAGE 36



ALLAN CARSWELL
is a freelance curator and museum consultant with an interest in Scotland's military history.
PAGE 42



CORRECTION
On page 10 of the spring issue, we inadvertently used an image of *Primula vulgaris*, the common primrose, instead of *Primula scotica*, the Scottish primrose (pictured above).

SUMMER 2025

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HISTORIC
SCOTLAND
ALBA
AOSMHOR

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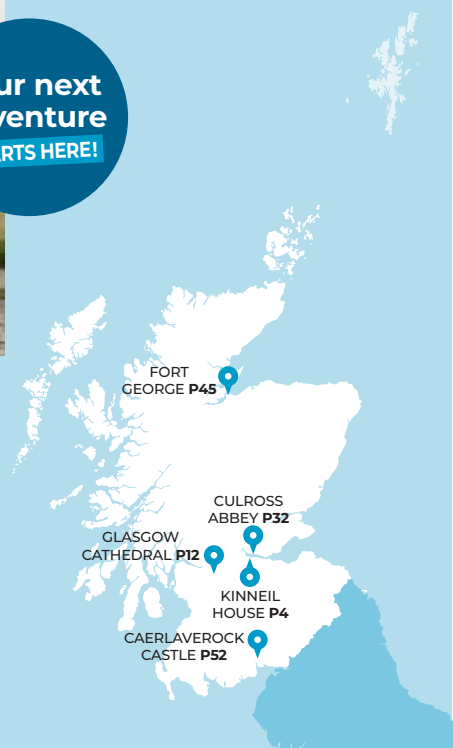
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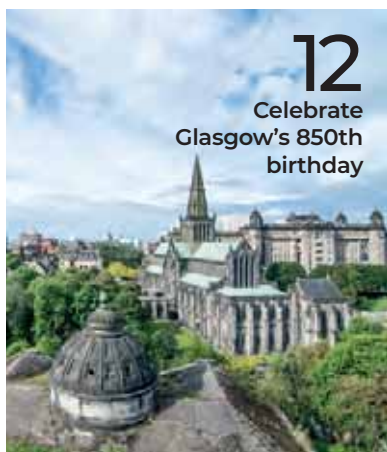


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BIG PICTURE

KINNEIL HOUSE

This summer, enjoy a trip to Kinneil House, its museum and surrounding parkland in Bo'ness to uncover 2,000 years of history

The 200-acre Kinneil Estate on which this grand residence stands was first mentioned in AD 731 by the Anglo-Saxon scholar, the Venerable Bede, making it one of Scotland's earliest settlements to be mentioned in a written source. The remnants of the nearby Kinneil Church also suggest it was once a site of religious importance in early medieval times.

The Hamiltons took control of the estate in 1323 and Kinneil House



became symbolic of their high status. James Hamilton, 2nd Earl of Arran, was named Regent of Scotland in 1543. In 1553, he had two suites added to the house's north wing.

In the late 1670s, Anne, Duchess of Hamilton, and her husband began transforming the house for their son, the Earl of Arran, a project that took 20 years. Today, you can see the Hamiltons' paintings

and decorative flourishes during our guided tours.

Meaning 'head (or end) of the wall', Kinneil's placename is attributed to the estate's proximity to the Antonine Wall, built by the Romans at their northern frontier. Remains of a Roman fortlet stand to the west of the house.

Kinneil House also has a strong claim as the birthplace of James Watt's improved steam engine.

MUST-DOS

- See the Kinneil Cross's stone carving of Jesus Christ.
- Join our guided tours to discover the Hamiltons' story and the house's late 16th-century kitchen and Renaissance period painted rooms.
- Visit Kinneil Museum, the Antonine Wall and ruins of the nearby Roman fortlet, the medieval church and James Watt's workshop.

BOOK AHEAD

Kinneil Estate's grounds are open all year. Visits to Kinneil House are by guided tour only. Book at hes.scot/kinneil-house

ACCESSIBILITY

Entry to Kinneil House's ground floor interior is via two steps. The rest of the house is accessible via a spiral staircase. There's an interactive computer display allowing people with limited mobility to view the upper floor rooms.

Kinneil Museum's ground floor has a disabled accessible ramp and an accessible toilet.

TRAVEL THE GREEN WAY

To get to Kinneil House by train, bus, bike and foot, visit travelinescotland.com



Plan your next trip to
Kinneil House at
historyawaits.scot



HES

JUNE – AUGUST

THIS SUMMER

Explore Edinburgh Castle's Western Defences and take in spectacular views

DISCOVER EDINBURGH CASTLE'S HIDDEN GEMS

New family trail and Western Defences tour reveal the landmark's lesser-known history

Explore Edinburgh Castle's new family trail and Western Defences to discover hidden corners and enjoy unique vantage points across the city.

The new family trail will see sleuths of all ages follow clues to track down a mysterious 'unicorn horn' kept at the castle by Mary Queen of Scots.

We've also opened the castle's Western Defences for the first time in over 20 years, and just for summer (closed daily 12.30-1.15pm for the firing of the One o'Clock Gun).

● Find more information at edinburghcastle.scot



MEMBERS EXCLUSIVE EVENT

MORE EVENTS ON PAGE 54

GET A TASTE OF HISTORY

New tour puts Kinneil House's gastronomic past on the table

Whether you're a novice cook or star baker, all tastes are catered for at Kinneil House's Historical Baking members-only event.

With three tours taking place at 10.30am-12pm, 1pm-2.30pm and 3pm-4.30pm on Saturday 5 July, discover the history of the Hamilton family who called this striking 16th-century building home, before savouring

Kinneil House's culinary past. You'll join a historical baker who'll demonstrate traditional baking before sharing freshly made, medieval-style horsebread and rose-flavoured shortbread. We'll let you decide if they're worthy of a 'Hollywood Handshake'!

● Book your space at hes.scot/member-events and make sure you log in first

Learn about traditional baking at Kinneil House





Lances will clash at
Caerlaverock Castle
and Linlithgow Palace

JOIN THE JOUSTERS

Battling knights are back

Our Spectacular Jousting events are returning for another season of summer thrills and spills. Experience exhilarating horse riding at Linlithgow Palace between

28 and 29 June, as noble knights battle it out.

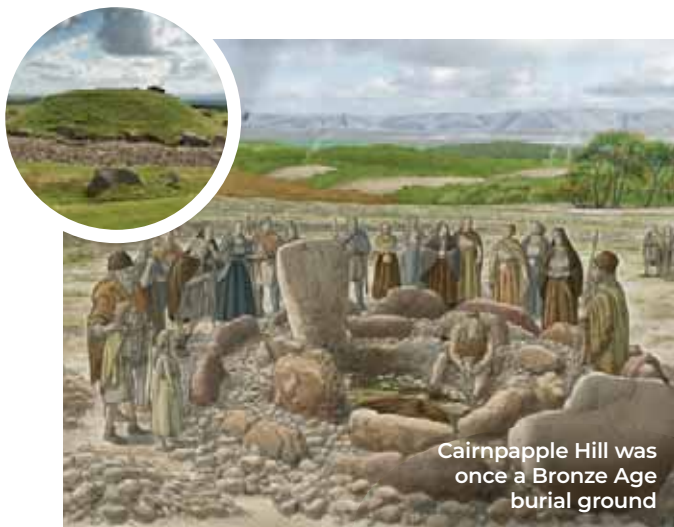
Afterwards, immerse yourself in the living history camp's medieval life, see birds of prey in flight and indulge in the court jester's antics.

Then on 26-27 July, the thunder of hooves will echo round Caerlaverock

Castle's grounds. You'll also hear how the Maxwell family, who ruled here for 400 years, got entangled in the Wars of Independence.

You can collect your jousting History Hunt card at both events.

● For all details and to book in advance visit hes.scot/events



Cairnpapple Hill was
once a Bronze Age
burial ground

STEP BACK TO PREHISTORIC TIMES

New interpretation sheds light on Cairnpapple Hill's story

Visit Cairnpapple Hill's visitor centre to see new interpretive panels that offer a better understanding of this site's prominence throughout the centuries.

The visitor centre is a corrugated iron Nissen hut originally built as a communications centre during the Second World War. It was reused by archaeologists investigating the site between 1947 and 1948.

Incorporating the latest research and 17 new illustrations, the visitor centre's new exhibition paints a clearer picture of how the site has been used over the years.

● Plan your visit at hes.scot/cairnpapple-hill



BE A CARD CAPTOR

Get your hands on more exclusive History Hunt cards this summer

We've introduced three brand-new History Hunt cards that members can secure on trips to selected properties – Good Traveller, Flourishing Gardens and Glasgow 850 Years.

The cards are collected at the till points of participating sites, so don't forget to bring your membership card along so you can catch them all!

● For more on this member exclusive visit hes.scot/history-hunt

3 OF A KIND SHOW TIME

Revel in music and
theatre at these sites



STIRLING CASTLE

For music lovers of all ages, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra brings the music of Schubert, Mozart and Lars-Erik Larsson to the grandeur of the Great Hall on 26 June.



ELGIN CATHEDRAL

Dreaming of finding your Mr Darcy? *Pride and Prejudice* will play at the 'Lantern of the North' on 26 August – a perfect way to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth.



DUFF HOUSE

"If music be the food of love, play on," wrote Shakespeare in *Twelfth Night*. Bring your own snacks to enjoy while watching this comedy of mistaken identities at Georgian masterpiece Duff House on 10 July.

● To book tickets visit hes.scot/events

The ruins of Iona Nunnery, once Bethoc's domain



WHO LIVED HERE?

IONA NUNNERY AND ABBEY

Dr Morvern French, Properties Historian, shares the story of the convent's influential prioress

Ranald, son of Somerled, King of the Isles, founded Iona's Augustinian Nunnery around 1200. He installed his sister Bethoc (also known as Beathag and Beatrice) as the nunnery's first prioress in the same year. She held this position until her death around 1207.

A learned and literate woman, Bethoc held a powerful position. She likely commissioned the *Iona Psalter*, written in Oxford between 1180 and 1220. This lavish devotional volume features a saints' day calendar and hymns used in the nunnery. The National Library of Scotland holds the book today.

BEHIND THE SCENES

VIRTUAL TOURS

Look out for our audiovisual Cube at properties this season

Our captivating, immersive Cube is touring more of our amazing properties.

Utilising 360-degree photography and video taken by us, this immersive audiovisual experience features projections that allow users to virtually explore the popular and little-known stories of many of the sites we care for across Scotland.

The Cube has previously been on tour to Stirling Castle and Barra to help people interact with the historic sites and environments surrounding these places.

● **Keep an eye on our social media channels to see where the Cube is heading next**



WIN A TARTAN TREAT

Inspired by its Loch Ness location – and created and woven by Prickly Thistle tartan mill and Lochcarron of Scotland, respectively – the new Urquhart Castle tartan collection is a tribute to this iconic landmark. To celebrate the tartan's launch, we're giving away three hampers filled with goodies from the range. Correctly answer the question below to be in with a chance of winning one.

ANSWER THIS QUESTION

Which king feasted in Urquhart Castle's great hall in 1342?

- A. Robert the Bruce
- B. David II
- C. James II

UP FOR GRABS

Three Urquhart Castle tartan hampers. Each includes a lambswool scarf, shortbread, whisky chaser chocolates, Brodies tea and whisky cake, and a trio of chocolate bars – all decked out in the new tartan design.

HOW TO ENTER

Submit your answer at hes.scot/ member-comp by Thursday 10 July 2025. Terms and conditions can be found here too. This competition is open to UK residents only.

LAST ISSUE'S ANSWER

Question: Which architect designed Edinburgh's Scott Monument?
Answer: A. George Meikle Kemp.

Coast past
Blackness
Castle and
shoreline



ALL ABOARD THE BIKE BUS

Free seasonal bus service connects riders
to Inner Forth landmarks

The Inner Forth Bike Bus is back for a second year to link cyclists, walkers and history lovers to the Inner Forth's landmarks and lesser-known highlights, including many looked after by us.

Running between Alloa and the Forth Bridges until 26 October, this free bus includes a trailer with space for up to 12 bikes, making it easier for cyclists to travel with their wheels in tow. Walkers are also welcome to hop aboard.

Climate FORTH – an Inner Forth Futures partnership, for which we act as an advisory body – is driving the Bike Bus, which has been made possible with support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The aim is to encourage people to make greener choices when exploring the area. The Bike Bus route encompasses walking and cycling paths – including the rebranded Round

the Inner Forth cycling route – and is close to connecting public transport links.

Several of our properties are accessible from the Bike Bus route, including Blackness Castle, Kinneil House, Clackmannan Tower, Culross Abbey, Cambuskenneth Abbey, Stirling Castle, Linlithgow Palace, Dunfermline Abbey and surviving sections of the Antonine Wall.

Take a seat this summer and enjoy joined-up journeys to our sites while doing your bit for the planet.

● **Booking is not essential but advised. Find all the details you need at bit.ly/CFbikebus**



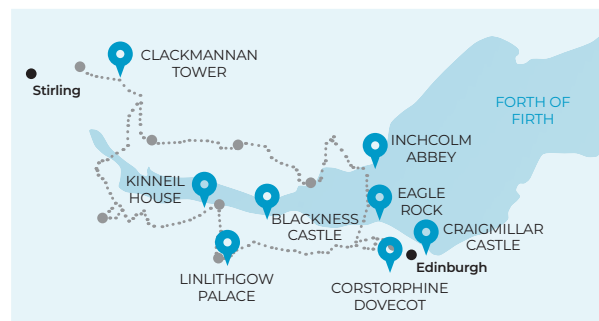
● **Remember to collect the new Good Traveller History Hunt card at some of these sites**



Take a tour of
Kinneil House



Pop your bike on
the Bike Bus trailer then
head to your next destination



Some of our properties close by the Bike Bus route



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to them.

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Glasgow Cathedral marks the site of St Mungo's church

ST MUNGO'S CITY

Join events honouring Glasgow's 850th anniversary

Glasgow is 850 years old in 2025. To celebrate this milestone, we're part of a programme of year-long events examining how Glasgow has been transformed over the centuries since St Kentigern – also known as St Mungo – founded a church on the site where Glasgow Cathedral now stands.

Anniversary events will also explore ways we can create a more sustainable future for the city over the next 50 years. Looking for inspiration? On 21 and 22

June we're running a variety of family trails, talks and activities around the Cathedral Precinct. These include an animal trail at Glasgow Cathedral, a nature-themed Sunday service, a word puzzle for the Necropolis and activities at the St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art. Watch out for our Glasgow 850 events announced throughout the year.

● To keep up to date with the celebrations visit Glasgow850.com

HAVE YOUR SAY

Tell us what Glasgow Cathedral means to you

We're currently revising the Statement of Significance for Glasgow Cathedral. These documents outline the heritage values of each of the properties we care for. To help us, we want to know what makes the cathedral special to you.

Whether you use the landmark to learn more about the city's history or as a place to pause and reflect when life gets busy, we want to know.

● Share your views by emailing CRTenquires@hes.scot

CELEBRATING PORT GLASGOW

Help us mark the town's 250th year

To honour the 250th anniversary of Port Glasgow, we'll be running a whole host of exciting events at Newark Castle as part of the annual Comet Festival over the weekend of 21-22 June.


We'll also be getting involved in several other exciting activities

throughout the year, including a Port Glasgow-themed Dungeons and Dragons adventure hosted at this stronghold built for the infamous Maxwell family during the 15th and 16th centuries.

● Find out more at portglasgow2025.com



FACING PAGE, LIZ SEABROOK



MY DREAM DAY OUT

Julie Lin

The Malaysian-Scottish chef, writer, presenter and restaurateur reflects on how Glasgow Cathedral has shaped her love for her home city

I have a lovely memory of my dad taking me to Glasgow Cathedral for the first time. We went with his friend who studied art history, and he told us about this 12th-century cathedral's history and its Scottish Gothic-style architecture. I'm a huge fan of design, so I quickly switched from typical moody teenager to being totally fascinated!

Whenever I'm visiting Glasgow Cathedral, I always grab a coffee and fresh doughnuts from the Barras first. The cathedral is so stunning inside. I spend plenty of time looking up to fully appreciate its architectural flourishes. Although I'm not religious, I appreciate Glasgow Cathedral's calm atmosphere. Visiting encourages you to enjoy moments of spiritual pause.

Afterwards, I'll head to see its gorgeous exterior before visiting Provand's Lordship – Glasgow's oldest house – and the Necropolis. The Cathedral Precinct has so much history to discover.

2025 is Glasgow's 850th anniversary, meaning plenty of people will be visiting. And while Glasgow Cathedral is certainly for visiting tourists, as someone who loves

being a tourist in their own city, I'm also recommending it to Glaswegians. There's something special about taking stock of your home's special places – which we can forget when we're busy living in it.

As well as its historical legacy, Glasgow's thriving food scene is another of the city's star attractions.

My mum's always been big on food and loves cooking and hosting. She's from Malaysia and my dad's from Glasgow. I've always embraced both cultures and feel like I'm from two places rather than one. Food is a big part of our social life, and we cook in a Malaysian style using Scottish ingredients. What we eat has also shaped how I see the city.

Growing up, we'd always head to Chinatown around Garscube Road for char siu bao to fuel our city exploring. We'd also visit loads of restaurants. When you're eating different foods, you visit all corners of a city. Food has the power to connect us to a place's people and identity.

When I consider this in relation to Malaysia's history – specifically Malacca, where my mum's from – there's so much influence from Portuguese, Dutch, Japanese and British invasions. That's why Malaysia's architecture and food is so varied.

Glasgow's heritage is also a melting pot of cultures that have melded over centuries. The city has so much history, which you can see in buildings such as Glasgow Cathedral. That's why Historic Environment Scotland's work is so vital. We need to protect these buildings, so we know where we've come from and where we're going.

Julie savours the rich heritage of Glasgow Cathedral and its surrounds



Julie's debut cookbook, *Sama Sama*, is available now at penguin.co.uk



JULIE'S MUST-SEE

ST MUNGO'S CRYPT

Glasgow Cathedral is dedicated to the city's patron saint, St Mungo (also known as St Kentigern). This 13th-century tomb lies at the centre of the Lower Church.

PODCAST DIARIES

Host Sarah MacGillivray shares highlights from Historic Scotland Podcast's first season

Historic Scotland Podcast season one connected writer and host Sarah MacGillivray to our properties and the people who are passionate about them. Here, she shares what she learned on the podcast trail and why you shouldn't miss any of our sites' fascinating stories.

What was it like travelling to different historic places across Scotland?

I love travelling, so visiting properties and going behind the scenes to places visitors don't usually see was magical. As an actor and writer, storytelling is what I do. And I quickly realised that Historic Scotland sites have so many stories to tell!

What were your favourite properties to visit?

Stanley Mills' rich industrial heritage blew me away. Plus, the Interpretation Team's work around increasing understanding of the property's connections to the transatlantic slave trade is so important.

Which famous figures did you learn more about?

James IV seems like a larger-than-life character. Robert Bruce's friendship with James Douglas, and their connections to Melrose Abbey, was also fascinating. Christina Bruce's story was thrilling too – especially her defence of Kildrummy Castle in 1335 from David Strathbogie's 3,000-strong army!

What did you enjoy most about meeting our onsite staff?

Everyone I met had a strong

sense of guardianship and brought a site's story to life in accessible and engaging ways. Plus, they're always looking for new ways to tell popular and lesser-known stories. Everyone's playing an important part in safeguarding these places for the next generations. It's been a dream meeting such amazing people.

Where would you like to visit next?

My dad is from Orkney, which is full of incredible Neolithic



Sarah MacGillivray meets John Donaldson, who carved the Stirling Heads replicas



Discovering the stories behind the Stirling Heads

Recording history at Stirling Castle

SEND US YOUR IDEAS AND FEEDBACK

Do you have a favourite tale about our properties that Sarah could focus on in a future episode? Help us shape the Historic Scotland Podcast by completing our survey at hes.scot/members-podcast

sites, such as the Ring of Brodgar, so it'd be nice to explore there. I'd also love to re-visit Cairnpapple Hill. Its views and history are incredible.

Why should members tune in to the podcast (if they haven't already)?

Whether you're a history novice or buff, the Historic Scotland Podcast has something for everyone. Each episode offers a real sense of the sites that we spotlight. And hopefully listening inspires people to visit a place for the first time, or return to see it from a different angle.

● Visit hes.scot/members-podcast to listen to the Historic Scotland Podcast

OUR FAVOURITE BOOKS

WANDERINGS WITH A CAMERA

John H. Beveridge's work left a lasting impression
on Lesley Ferguson, Head of Archives

John H. Beveridge published his two-volume book, *Wanderings With a Camera*, in 1922, to showcase the photography of his father – the Dunfermline mill owner, historian and archaeologist Erskine Beveridge – who died two years prior.

Erskine traversed Scotland and beyond with a large glass-plate camera. These volumes feature 320 of his photographs produced using the collotype process – when a photographic negative is projected onto a printing plate coated with light-sensitive gelatine that produces an image when hardened.

All images have precise dates. This is unusual for the time but crucial to understanding places, monuments and landscapes when they were framed.

Included in this publication are Erskine's shots taken on the SS *Oregon* in March 1885 during an American business trip. From a steamer on the Mississippi River to British Columbia's developing communities, the images give insights into this Victorian businessman's adventures.

Also included are Erskine's images of the St John's Cross fragments on Iona, which he naughtily climbed into the protective enclosure to



photograph during an 1895 trip. Our archives hold more than 900 of Erskine's glass-plate negatives. However, these photographs are only known through the pages of these volumes, solidifying them as valuable research resources.

Lesley holding *Wanderings With a Camera*, taken specially for this article with a plate-glass camera

● Explore Scotland's past and book a visit to our archives at hes.scot/hes-archives

ENGINE SHED MILESTONES

News from our building conservation centre in Stirling



RETROFIT CENTRE

We recently shared plans for our new Retrofit Centre – championing the retrofitting of traditional buildings to improve their energy efficiency. It will support moves to reduce carbon emissions and meet net-zero targets by 2045.



NEW QUALIFICATION

We've worked with the National Open College Network to create the Level 3 Award in Energy Efficiency for Older and Traditional Buildings. Aimed at professionals, this qualification centres on retrofitting eco-conscious measures into the built environment.

● Find out more at engineshed.scot

THANK YOU

How the Historic Scotland Foundation is stewarding recent donations



In the past year, a number of projects have received the support of the Historic Scotland Foundation, which steers donations to key projects.

The Trustees agreed that donated funds would support the Build Your Future project, which shows school pupils the

traditional skills needed to care for the historic environment. Trinity House's new education programme, highlighting the property's global links, also received support from the Foundation as well as a new archive illustrating the creative skills intrinsic to Stirling

Castle's tapestries (pictured), and a new aviary for Iona's iconic doves, which symbolise the island's significance.

Your contributions are far-reaching and hugely appreciated. Thank you!

● For more details email fundraising@hes.scot



Gordon working
on a stained-
glass window

BEHIND THE SCENES

A WINDOW TO THE PAST

Meet Gordon Muir, Craft Fellow in historic stained-glass making

Gordon Muir, 63, from Glasgow, has helped restore the stained-glass cupula of the B-listed former Tynecastle High School, which was designed by Scottish architect John Alexander Carfrae and founded in 1912.

"Although it's unknown which studio produced the original glass, it's typical of the period's Arts and Crafts glass," says Gordon.

"I worked with my Craft Fellow host, Rob MacInnes, to identify damage before removing the old putty and replacing the glass," explains Gordon. "We then returned the panels to their wooden tracery before

puttying and painting them." This five-month project was a labour of love. Gordon's work – and our Craft Fellowship programme – is important to our new Heritage Skills at Risk Register, which identifies traditional building and heritage skills at risk of disappearing.

"It's lovely to see these windows back where they belong," says Gordon. "I'm really pleased with the experience I've gained."

● To find out more about our Craft Fellowship programme visit hes.scot/skills-and-training

VIEW FINDERS

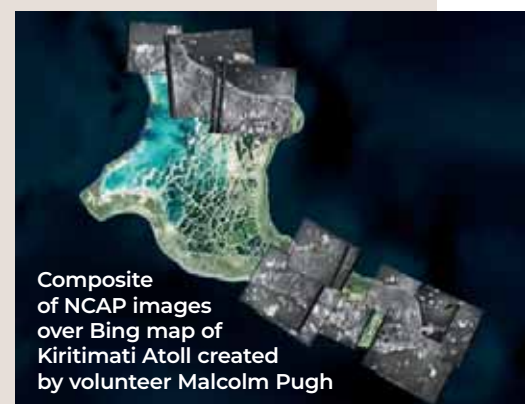
Volunteer Development Officer
Kirsty Haslam on the Digital
Connector role

The National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP) holds more than 30 million photographs, and our NCAP Digital Connector volunteers are helping us make this important resource as accessible as possible.

Volunteers help us to footprint and identify geographical areas covered by the NCAP collection. This includes using original sortie plots – diagrams of an aircraft's known flight path – to identify locations in images.

Our NCAP Digital Connectors have so far generated over 5,000 footprints of islands in the Mediterranean, Pacific and Indian oceans. Excitingly, they've also identified previously unlocated images taken across France following the Second World War.

● Find out more about volunteering opportunities at hes.scot/volunteer



Composite
of NCAP images
over Bing map of
Kiritimati Atoll created
by volunteer Malcolm Pugh



A newly identified image of
Bédarrides in France

ENTER
& WIN!

Edinburgh Castle
by Jian Shao

Dunfermline Abbey
by Graham Moodie

Nobility at
Stirling Castle
by Herbert
Booth

Smailholm Tower
by Debbie
Whittingham

MEMBERS' PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2025

Take inspiration from some of the 2024 entries shown above and send us your shots of epic days out at our historic sites



We're asking happy snappers to submit up to three images taken at our sites that capture this year's

theme: epic days out.

Whether it's shooting atmospheric Castle Campbell, striking a pose while stepping back in time at Skara Brae, following the footsteps of Fort George's soldiering stories or simply scoffing a scone at Urquhart Castle's Lochview Café after some history hunting – share what an epic day out spent at our awesome sites means to you.

NEED TO KNOW

Opens: 5 June

Closes: 5pm on 28 November

Results: Revealed in the spring 2026 issue of *Historic Scotland*

Send your shots to:

hesphotocomp@
thinkpublishing.co.uk

T&Cs: hes.scot/members-
competition

UP FOR GRABS

WINNER

- £250 Amazon voucher
- A trip to Edinburgh Castle with our Photo Unit to learn tips and tricks
- A free year of Historic Scotland membership
- A copy of *Art Deco Scotland: Design and Architecture in the Jazz Age*

X2 RUNNERS-UP:

- Afternoon tea at Edinburgh Castle
- A copy of *A History of Scotland's Landscapes*
- Urquhart Castle shortbread

PICTURE PERFECT

Our photographer Matt Cartney shares his tips on capturing pixel-perfect photos

1 Be inspired by our picture perfect properties' arresting architecture

From mysterious stone circles such as Calanais to the grandeur of Stirling Castle, there's a great variety of architecture at our properties. Many sites stand within very beautiful landscapes too, which is a gift for photographic composition.

2 Look for unique vantage points

You can get great shots of Stirling Castle from the King's Knot. The Vennel Steps offer a unique view of Edinburgh Castle. Dumbarton Castle from West Ferry across the River Clyde and Kilchurn Castle from Loch Awe's shores are also special spots.

3 Use the elements to your advantage

Scotland's changeable weather offers opportunities to capture dramatic images.



Rainbow's end at Kilchurn Castle

Blue skies look great, but when the sun's close to the horizon it gives landscapes a golden light and brings out earthy tones in stonework. Even when the weather's terrible, clouds add atmosphere.

4 Always keep an eye on the weather

Don't forget to check the forecast and the sunrise and sunset times before heading out. Planning ahead can help you get the most out of the elements and light conditions.



Forth Bridge, Firth of Forth

5 Get the right permission for aerial shots

Lots of our sites allow you to launch your drone for aerial photography. You can apply to fly from a property through the Drone Safety Map, via the Altitude Angel website, or you can contact paul.spence@hes.scot to get more information.



A drone's eye view of Stirling Castle



A day out at Tantallon Castle

● For more information visit hes.scot/uas

MATT CARTNEY

Matt Cartney and some of his work

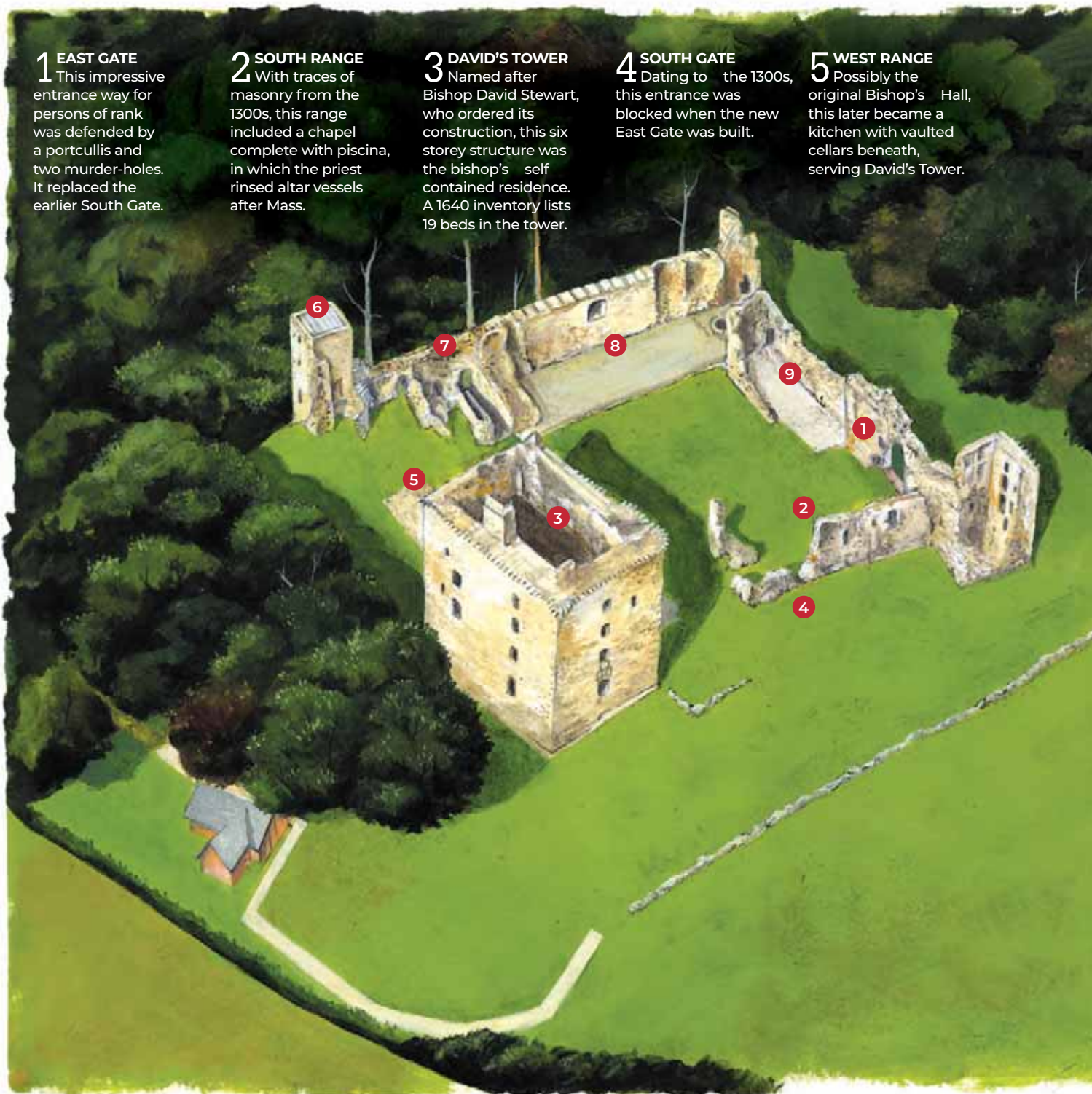
1 EAST GATE
This impressive entrance way for persons of rank was defended by a portcullis and two murder-holes. It replaced the earlier South Gate.

2 SOUTH RANGE
With traces of masonry from the 1300s, this range included a chapel complete with piscina, in which the priest rinsed altar vessels after Mass.

3 DAVID'S TOWER
Named after Bishop David Stewart, who ordered its construction, this six storey structure was the bishop's self contained residence. A 1640 inventory lists 19 beds in the tower.

4 SOUTH GATE
Dating to the 1300s, this entrance was blocked when the new East Gate was built.

5 WEST RANGE
Possibly the original Bishop's Hall, this later became a kitchen with vaulted cellars beneath, serving David's Tower.



TIMELINE

1207

Pope Innocent III authorises Bishop Brice to establish his cathedral at Spynie.



1224

Bishop Andrew of Moray transfers his seat to Elgin and retains Spynie as the bishop's residence.

C.1465

Bishop David Stewart oversees the start of building the impressive David's Tower. It is completed by his successor, Bishop William Tulloch.



1505

James IV is entertained by singing maidens while staying at Spynie Palace during his pilgrimage to St Duthac's shrine.



6 WATER TOWER
Known as such because it overlooked Spynie Loch, once much closer to the palace. The tower provided extra accommodation but was later made into a dovecot.

7 WATER GATE
A back gate, or postern, used by servants and others, and giving direct access to the loch. It was reached by a pend under the Great Hall.

8 GREAT HALL RANGE
The largest room in the palace during the 1400s, it was used for public functions. The pantry, kitchen, bakehouse and brewhouse were to the west of the hall, and storage cellars were directly below.

9 EAST RANGE
This had various chambers and may at one time have housed the palace keeper. By the 1600s it was used as a dovecot, hay loft and granary.

The coats of arms on the side of David's Tower at Spynie Palace



SPYNIE PALACE

Explore the best-preserved medieval bishop's palace in Scotland

Once at the heart of a thriving medieval settlement, Spynie Palace was home to the powerful Bishops of Moray for 500 years, the impressive edifice reflecting their status and lifestyle.

Set beside a once-large sea loch with a safe anchorage, Spynie was for a time the site of a cathedral and the main church of the bishopric of Moray. This base of religious power in north-east Scotland was moved to Elgin by Bishop Andrew around 1224 but the palace continued to be the bishop's principal residence.

The earliest traces of the palace date from the 1300s, but much of what can be seen today are the ruins of a major rebuild begun by Bishop David Stewart c.1465. This included David's Tower, one of the largest tower houses ever built in Scotland. Given the bishops' political leverage, the

palace hosted many of Scotland's monarchs. In 1362, Bishop John welcomed David II and his royal court, who travelled north to escape the Black Death. In 1505, during James IV's pilgrimage to St Duthac's shrine in Tain, 'madinnes [maidens] sang to the king at Spinie'. On his return visit, the king is said to have played cards – and lost.

Mary Queen of Scots also looked in at Spynie in 1562 during a royal progress. She arrived with an army tasked with thwarting the ambitions of the 4th Earl of Huntly, who had been goading the monarchy.

Spynie and its bishops held on through the Protestant Reformation of 1560 and were left in relative peace by the Covenanters in 1639. But by 1690, Parliament had abolished episcopacy (churches governed by bishops) and Spynie Palace's shared history with the bishops of Moray ended.

SPYNIE PALACE

1562

Mary Queen of Scots spends two nights at Spynie Palace during a royal progress that culminates in the downfall of the 4th Earl of Huntly.

1573

Bishop George Douglas is appointed as the first Protestant Bishop of Moray, following the Reformation.

1820s

After 150 years of neglect, the government steps in to rescue the decaying palace and install a custodian.



INTO THE WILD

Ranger Gordon Smith shares eight wonderful ways to get closer to nature at our sites this summer

WORDS: GORDON SMITH/JONATHAN MCINTOSH



Summer is finally here! And with it comes longer days and more opportunities to enjoy all that the great outdoors has to offer – Scotland’s famously temperamental weather permitting, of course.

Whether you’re looking for somewhere to take the kids while school’s out for summer, fancy a day trip to a favourite haunt or want to discover somewhere new, there are lots of ways to have fresh air and fun at our historic sites. You can also find out how we’re protecting our natural heritage at properties across Scotland.

From dolphin watching atop the ramparts of a mighty fortress that’s served the British Army for nearly 250 years to uncovering the impressive powers of wildflowers, Gordon shares eight fantastic activities guaranteed to get you up close and in tune with nature on your summer days out.



The Moray Firth is home to dolphins



Fort George’s ramparts are the perfect viewpoint

Spot dolphins from fortress walls

Where: Fort George

This formidable fortress was designed by Lieutenant-General William Skinner and built by the Adam family of architects as a base for King George II’s army following the Battle of Culloden in 1746. It remains in use today as the base of the Black Watch, 3rd

Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland (3 SCOTS). And thanks to its strategic location on the Moray Firth, it’s also an ideal location to catch sight of bottlenose dolphins.

Growing up to four metres in length and sporting dark grey backs and paler undersides, bottlenose dolphins can reach speeds of more than 18 miles an hour. The Moray Firth’s 200-strong population is the world’s most northerly for this species.

Head to the fortification’s impressive ramparts to maximise your chances of seeing these impressive mammals for yourself. You’ll experience uninterrupted views to Chanonry Point and the Black Isle where bottlenose dolphins hunt, play and splash around. You might even see some dolphins swim past the fortress travelling to these destinations.

● **FAST FACT** The best time to see bottlenose dolphins at Fort George is during a rising tide (one hour after low tide).



Linlithgow Loch at dusk is an ideal hunting ground for bats

Bat watch at dusk

Where: [Linlithgow Loch](#)

2 Begun for James I in the 1420s, Linlithgow Palace was a favoured pitstop for royalty travelling between Edinburgh Castle and Stirling Castle. It was also a nursery for Scotland's monarchs, including James V (born 1512) and Mary Queen of Scots (born 1542). These days, as the summer sun sets, this regal pleasure palace plays court to other occupants: bats.

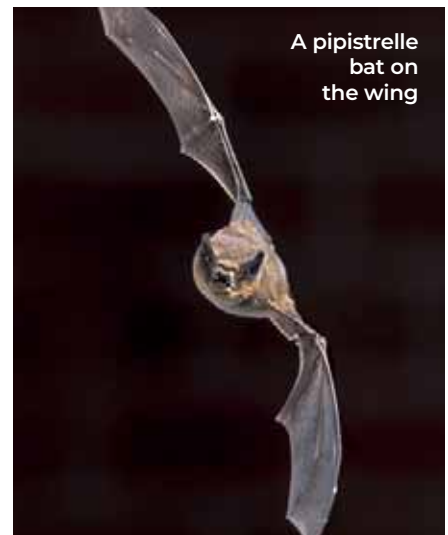
During dusk, take a ramble around Linlithgow Loch and the surrounding parkland and you'll be treated to sights

of pipistrelle bats emerging from their slumber in the Palace roosts.

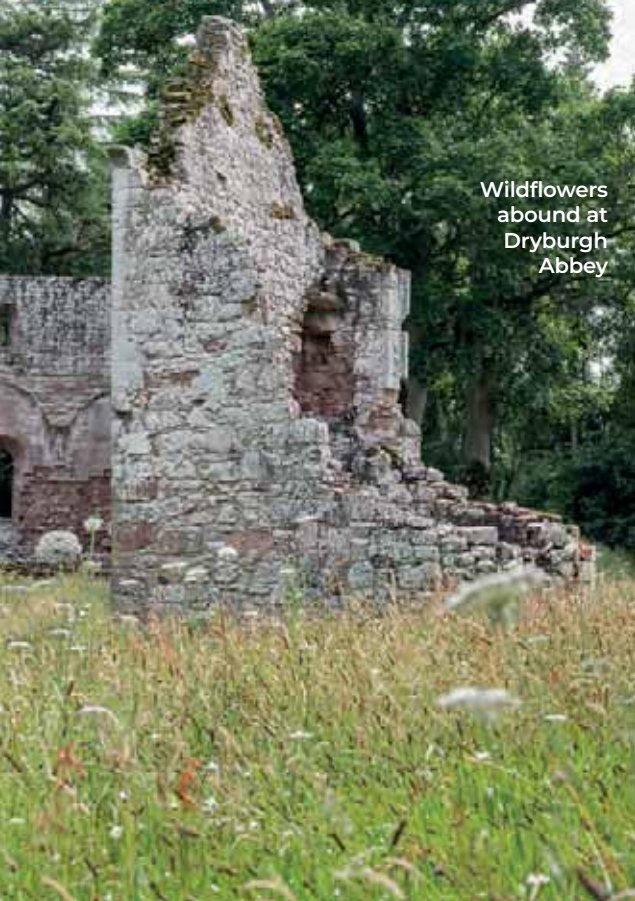
Don't forget to swing by the loch's harbour too. This is a perfect place to see Daubenton's bats fly low across the water's surface in search of midges, caddisflies and mayflies to eat.

During the summer, female bats form maternity colonies, giving birth to a single pup each. At six weeks old, the young bats will begin to catch insects for themselves and no longer need their mother's milk.

● **TAKE CARE** While bat spotting at dusk around the loch and in the surrounding grounds, please stay on the paths, watch your footing and stay back from the water's edge.



A pipistrelle bat on the wing



Wildflowers
abound at
Dryburgh
Abbey

Discover the power of wildflowers

Where: Dryburgh Abbey

3 Situated on the banks of the River Tweed, the picturesque and peaceful Dryburgh Abbey was founded in the 12th century by Premonstratensian canons from Northumberland's Alnwick Priory.

Back in 2016, the property's garden team introduced a new wildflower planting strategy. This recreated an early 19th-century landscape created by David Erskine, 11th Earl of Buchan, (which had charmed Romantic writers and artists, such as Sir Walter Scott and J.M.W. Turner) to help tackle the effects of climate change and encourage more biodiversity.

This approach has been hugely successful and there's no better time to see the wildflower meadows in full bloom than the summer months. As well as several varieties of wild grasses, expect to see lots of cheery flowers, such as daisies, yellow rattle, yarrow and orchids, carpeting the monastic grounds.

● **FAST FACT** Visit other wildflower meadows at Melrose Abbey, Cross Kirk, Jedburgh Abbey, Spynie Palace, Machrie Moor and Bonawe Historic Iron Furnace.

SHUTTERSTOCK/ALAMY

Be beguiled by our gardens

4 Flora and fauna burst into life at our historic sites during the summer months.

There's lots for green-fingered enthusiasts and gardening newbies to enjoy in this quartet of horticultural havens.



ABERDOUR CASTLE

● This reinforced residence's walled garden – added by the 8th Earl of Morton in the 1630s – is something special. Also explore its orchard with 18 apple varieties, find aromatherapy plants such as camomile and lavender, and look for globe thistles in July.

EDZELL CASTLE

● Edzell's charm is testament to the prestige of its previous owners, the Lindsays. Boasting heraldic sculptures and carved panels, the walled garden has a recessed chequered pattern filled with blue and white lobelia and marigolds in June.



STIRLING CASTLE

● Queen Anne Gardens feature white alyssum and 'Cambridge Blue' lobelia that create the Stewart coat of arms, while the rose borders' red trumpeters and yellow 'Honeymoons' mimic this royal family's colours.

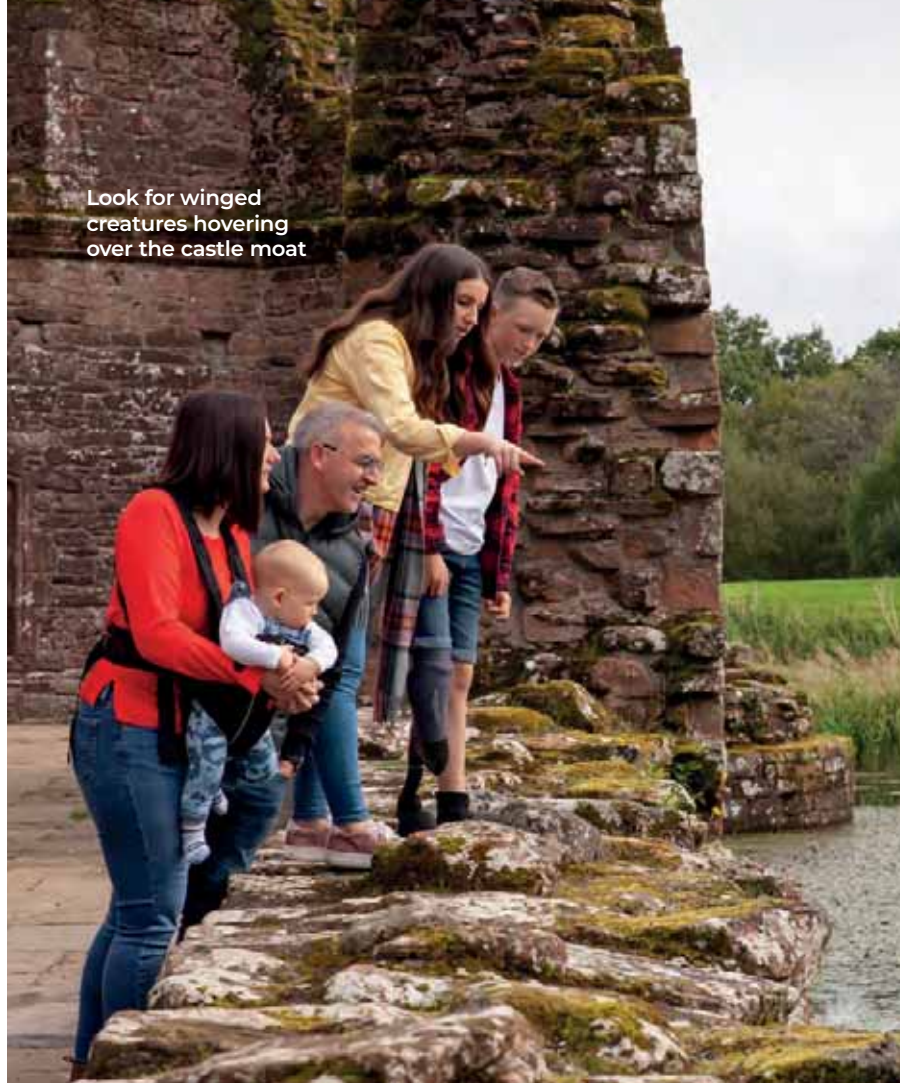
DIRLETON CASTLE

● The former seat of the de Vaux, Haliburton and Ruthven families is a tree-lover's paradise. Enjoy its impressive yew collection – some dating back 500 years – a rare Chinese ginkgo tree, monkey puzzle trees, cedar and juniper conifers.



Collect your 'Flourishing Gardens' History Hunt card at these sites this summer.

Look for winged creatures hovering over the castle moat



Marvel at moat-dwelling dragonflies and damselflies

Where: Caerlaverock Castle

5 With its twin-towered gatehouse and wide moat, Caerlaverock Castle is often likened to a stronghold you'd find in a fairytale. However, there's method behind its architectural aesthetic. The triangular layout allowed the powerful Maxwell family – who presided over the stronghold from the 13th century until its final siege in 1640 – to defend themselves against enemies on all fronts using a small number of soldiers.

If the weather is nice and calm, you'll see dragonflies and damselflies resting on reed beds on the fringes of the moat, hovering above the water or speeding about. You might even be lucky enough to catch them hunting insect prey mid-flight!

From four-spotted chasers and emperor dragonflies to common darters and emerald damselflies, see how many of these amazing creatures you can count.

● **FAST FACT** Dragonflies are among the fastest flying insects, and they are capable of flying in any direction, including backwards.

A golden-ringed dragonfly



Reed beds create an excellent habitat



Go wildlife watching

Where: Inchcolm Abbey

6 Inchcolm Abbey was originally established as a priory by David I in 1140 and gained abbey status in 1235. Inchcolm Island, on which this abbey sits, is a haven for fascinating flora and fauna.

On the boat trip over, watch for grey seals and harbour seals swimming nearby or snoozing on rocks in the bay just south of the abbey. In autumn, grey seals breed on Inchcolm Island.

The island and its environs are also an incredible place to spot all manner of birds that contribute to its diverse ecosystem. Look for rafts of seabirds –

including guillemots, razorbills and, if you're extra lucky, puffins – floating on the water, and cliff-nesting fulmars and kittiwakes.

● **FAST FACT** Seabirds are incredible creatures with waterproof feathers, exceptional vision and the ability to drink saltwater. They play a vital role in marine ecosystems.



Island life at Inchcolm Abbey

Rove with our rangers

7 Our Ranger Service runs a variety of walks and activities throughout summer. Join in the fun of these ranger-led events, which cater for different ages and abilities, to learn all about our sites' natural and historical treasures.



COASTAL CAPERS

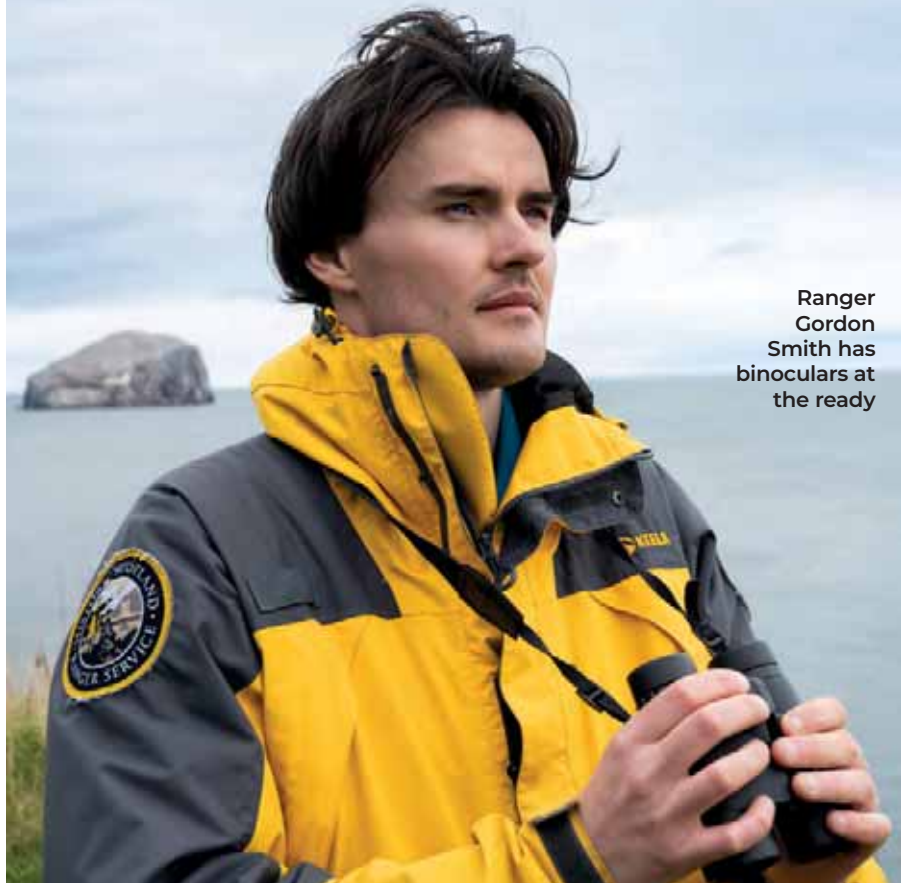
Blackness Castle, 12 July

● Inspire the next Banksy at our art-focused activity at this 15th-century stronghold. Aimed at children aged 8-12, participants will explore the seashore with rangers, then create some art while learning about the creatures that call the shore home.

TANTALLON WILDLIFE WATCH

Tantallon Castle, 16 July

● Set on dramatic cliffs with spectacular views of the North Sea and the Bass Rock, the natural environment surrounding this former seat of the powerful Douglas family is home to some seabirds, otters and seals. Even whales and dolphins can be seen on occasion! Visit the Rangers' Observation Station and see what you can spot.



Ranger Gordon Smith has binoculars at the ready



Look for the black and white of guillemots



A seal bobs up to say hello

ARTHUR'S AMBLE

Holyrood Park, 6 and 24 July, 10 and 31 August, 28 September

● Join a gentle guided walk around Hunter's Bog and St Margaret's Loch to learn more about the park's turbulent geological past and fascinating history. From the people who have lived and worked here over the centuries to rare wildlife that makes the park so special, there's lots to learn about this landscape forged by fire and ice.



Geology tells a story at Holyrood Park

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Schedule your summer days out and book your tickets at hes.scot/whats-on

SHUTTERSTOCK



You may be lucky to spot the shy corncrake at Iona Abbey

Listen for the elusive corncrake call

Where: Iona Abbey

8 Founded by St Columba in AD 563, Iona Abbey has been a focus for Christian worship for centuries. The Isle of Iona on which this ancient place of worship sits is similarly celebrated by birdwatchers in the summer months when it welcomes one of the UK's most endangered birds – the corncrake.

Corncrakes are just a little bigger than blackbirds and migrate 6,000 miles from Western Africa before arriving on Iona in April. These very secretive birds prefer to spend their days foraging and nesting in tall grass and reedbeds, and they will stay on Iona until September.

Don't let their small stature fool you, however. They are incredibly noisy, and male corncrakes are (in)famous for their repetitive 'crex crex' call, which has been compared to the sound of a comb being scraped on wood.

To help address dwindling population numbers, our conservation and monument staff are working on a new corncrake-friendly mowing regime at Iona Abbey to benefit these birds, pollinator species and other wildlife.

You're much more likely to hear a corncrake than see one. The stands of iris beds, silage fields and longer grassland around the abbey are the best places to encounter them, so keep an ear out and your eyes peeled if you're visiting this summer.

● **FAST FACT** Industrial farming has caused UK corncrake numbers to drop drastically over the past 150 years.

A place of pilgrimage for bird lovers



Bringing Tenew home

A figure of faith and resilience, St Tenew was the mother of Glasgow's patron saint, St Mungo, yet her story is one of Scotland's lesser-known histories. Rebecca Sharp, author of a new performance about Tenew, *Maiden Mother Mage*, explores her legacy.




EAST END TRIBUTE

This Glasgow mural by Mark Worst shows St Tenew being guided across the Firth of Forth by a shoal of fish. Her shawl features 29 motifs honouring the women killed in the 1889 Templeton Factory disaster.

SHUTTERSTOCK





Striking and contemporary murals of St Mungo and his mother, St Tenew, adorn high gable ends in Glasgow and do a wonderful job of bringing their stories back to their historic locations. Growing up in Glasgow, I was always more familiar with the story of St Mungo, the city's better known patron saint, than with Tenew, or Enoch as I knew her then. I even had a dog called Mungo, whose name means 'dear one' or 'prince of hounds'. This year Glasgow celebrates 850 years since its founding by St Mungo. But why is St Tenew's story the lesser known? I decided to find out and share her legacy with a wider audience.

Tenew was said to have been the daughter of Leudonus or Lot, the sixth-century pagan King of Lothian, from whom the region gets its name. A now-extinct language of Brittonic, related to modern Welsh, was once spoken there.

Her home and the seat of the kingdom was at Traprain Law. At that time, there was an overlap between pagan or druidic practices and the arrival of Christianity, and Tenew may have had a foot in both worlds.

The writer Nigel Tranter, in his 1993 novel *Druid Sacrifice*, also highlighted Tenew's connection to Arthurian legend, as niece of King Arthur via her mother Queen Anna. Such overlapping

Glasgow Cathedral, first built in the 12th century, was dedicated to St Mungo, Tenew's son



Tenew was taken in by St Serf at Culross, where the abbey ruins stand

narratives are a defining feature of Tenew. I put them at the heart of my site-specific performance about her life and legacy, *Maiden Mother Mage*, which will be performed at Culross Abbey and Glasgow Cathedral this year.

We first learn of Tenew in *The Life of Saint Kentigern*, the hagiography (a saint's biography) of St Mungo written by the monk Jocelin of Furness around 1185. Today, she is venerated in the Christian faith as St Thaney, Protector of the Abused, and as St Enoch of Glasgow.

According to legend, at the age of 17, Tenew was assaulted and became pregnant. She was thrown from Traprain Law as punishment, either by her father or upon his orders. Some versions of her story name her assailant as a Welsh prince; elsewhere, there is a (pagan) swineherd that she refused to marry; and a northern king, who was already married, though their encounter was said to be consensual. In each case, however, the outcome is the same.

Tenew survived the fall to be punished a second time, some accusing her of witchcraft. She was placed in an oarless boat and set adrift in the Firth of Forth at Aberlady Bay. Again, she survived to wash ashore at Culross in Fife. There, she was taken in by St Serf, founder of an early Christian church there. It was later the site of Culross



Traprain Law, Tenew's home

Abbey, founded in 1217 by Malcolm, earl of Fife.

The ruins of the abbey are now cared for by Historic Environment Scotland (HES), while its adjoining church now serves as a Church of Scotland place of worship. It was at Culross that Tenew is thought to have given birth to Mungo, who would go on to found the city of

Glasgow by establishing a church there. Glasgow Cathedral, first built in the 12th century and dedicated to St Mungo, now stands on the site of this original church.

Original myth

The motif of trial, death (or near-death) and resurrection reinforces Tenew's connection to Welsh/Brittonic mythology. Her birth and rebirths at Traprain, Aberlady and Culross show parallels to the origin myth of Welsh bard Taliesin, who as a mortal named Gwion Bach ap Gwreang, was transformed by a series of dramatic incidents to become a visionary, shamanic being. There is scant evidence

St Tenew is venerated in the Christian faith as St Thaney, Protector of the Abused

of Tenew at Culross beyond the story of her son's birth. But there is evidence in Glasgow of Tenew being renowned for her holiness and devotion, and of having performed miracles. In the 15th century, James III gave wax for candles to light her tomb, recorded as being in 'St Tenew's chapel'. Relics of Tenew and Mungo were still revered in the city many centuries later.

By the later medieval period there was a chapel dedicated to Tenew – 'San Theneuke's Kirk', destroyed during the Reformation – above her tomb. It was approached by what was known until the late 1400s as St Tenew's Gait, now Trongate on Argyll Street.

Close by was a holy 'clootie' well in her name, where women came to leave offerings and drink the waters for health, protection and good fortune. Wells and springs were – and still are – revered as sources of spiritual power, which links Thaney's story to that of a much older water spirit. From 1581, such practices were forbidden by James VI.

The memory of Enoch's well survives in the recent novel *The Secrets of Blythswood Square* by Sara Sheridan.

Life and legacy

After extensive research into Tenew's life and legacy, I wrote *Maiden Mother Mage* to bring Tenew's story back into the light. With funding support from Creative Scotland and in collaboration with HES, the interweaving poetic monologues will be performed by actors, with original music, at Culross Abbey this July and at Glasgow Cathedral in September.



Stained-glass window depicting St Kentigern/Mungo at Culross Abbey

The performance depicts Thaney, my favourite of her names, at three stages of life: 'Maiden' in her youth at Traprain Law, 'Mother' in middle life at Culross and 'Mage' as the wise elder in Glasgow.

Having lived in Fife since 2014, I made connections with the region's landscape and lore, and found myself returning to Thaney's story – in particular, the versions of her assault. In the absence of her own account, each retelling presents a further

erosion of consent. Thaney's right to choose her own ends are most frequently contested, usually to serve another's agenda.

In the performance, 'Maiden' has the line: "That the identity of my defiler is unclear seems strange to me" – which is to say that Thaney knows what happened because, of course, she would. Notions of justice or retribution having long since dissolved in the mist, she's more interested in the ways her story has been appropriated and what this has done to her selfhood and power.

Actor Israela Efomi portrays the 'Maiden' version of Thaney as being at once fragmented and recovering ("I put back pieces of myself collected from the heather"). In 'Mother', played by Taylor Dyson, we meet Thaney at Culross, having survived the journey through the Firth of Forth ("a cup cast to the waters"). In 'Mage', played by Fletcher Mathers, Thaney is in Glasgow – the mighty matriarch ("I am the bell that rang"). The musical score is composed and performed by Alex South, who worked with field recordings from Culross, Aberlady Bay and Traprain Law, and the text's references to birds, bells and rivers.

Our aim has been to give Thaney the possibility of different versions of herself – those stolen from her violently in her human life and, knowingly or unknowingly, in the historical record. Also to others who received similar treatment over the centuries – not least the people from Culross (mostly women) accused of witchcraft, who were imprisoned and executed during the 17th century.



Artworks from one of the workshops

REFUGE AND RESILIENCE THROUGH ART

In partnership with HES, Rebecca has been working with Learning Officer Fiona Davidson to deliver workshops, which explore themes of refuge, recovery and resilience through writing and art.

Working with a Kurdish women's group in Glasgow,

a Ukrainian women's group in Fife and a community youth group in East Lothian, they have used Thaney's narrative as a template for writing self-reflective pieces in the participants' own languages, combined with artwork that has been inspired by Frances Law's imagery.

Participants also recorded their text for an audio presentation. Finished pieces will be installed at Culross Abbey and Glasgow Cathedral to accompany *Maiden Mother Mage*, bringing different voices to these mighty spaces of reflection and celebration.

In *Maiden Mother Mage*, Thaney is powerfully rooted to place, while she also talks about many mythologies – suggesting that time and story keep repeating and shapeshifting; that power is recovered by steering new courses towards either disruption or repair. Here, true to form and to our benefit, Thaney does both.

- See *Maiden Mother Mage* at Culross Abbey on 17-19 July (including St Thaney's Feast Day, 18 July) or at Glasgow Cathedral Festival on 18 September. More details at rebeccajoysharp.com
- Rebecca would like to thank HES and Creative Scotland for supporting this project, and Stephen Jones for research support.



Frances Law's *Maiden Mother Mage* artwork

TENEW'S MANY NAMES

Tenew has had a variety of names through history. 'Thaney' is first recorded around 1185 by Jocelin of Furness. An earlier Welsh account refers to her as the abbess 'Theonia'. Elsewhere, it is the Latinised 'Theneva'. Today in Culross, there's a street named St Thenues.

Historian John Durkan wrote: "In the 15th century and earlier she is regularly Thenew, with variants like Tenew, Teneu, Taneu [...] Thenaw, Thenewe (Aberdeen Breviary), Thennow (Adam King's Calendar) and the Welsh *Bonedd y Saint* calls her Denyw." There are other names, reflecting scribal misunderstandings and popular speech.

As early as 1295, 'the service of St Enock' appeared in Glasgow. In 1574, her name had become St Tenowis and then St Tenuochis from 1610. By 1641, she was known as St Enoch, after which her name settled on that form.

Explore these sacred places

Four historic sites that have stories to tell about Scottish saints



DUNFERMLINE ABBEY

St Margaret Visit the shrine of Queen Margaret, who established a Benedictine Priory here in c.1070. Renowned for her charitable works and miracles, she was canonised in 1249.



IONA ABBEY

St Columba Follow the pilgrims' route, the *Sràid nam Marbh* (Street of the Dead), to the 13th-century abbey, which stands on the site of the monastery that was founded by St Columba in AD 563.



WHITHORN PRIORY

St Ninian See the site of Ninian's 4th- or 5th-century church, the *Candida Casa* or 'shining white house', an important early Christian centre.



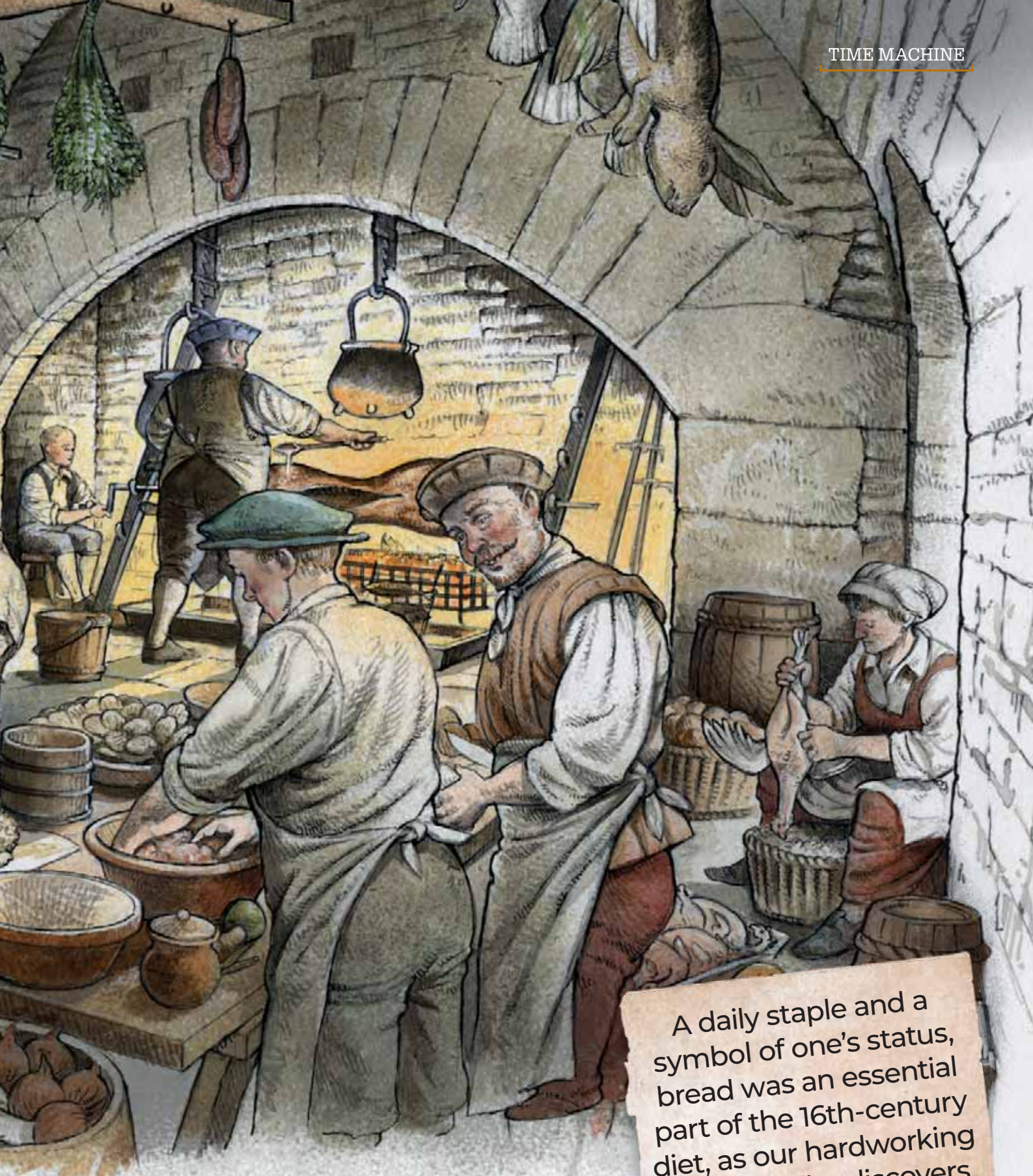
ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL

St Andrew Discover the link between Scotland's patron saint and this site. A popular 12th-century legend claimed his relics were brought here in the 4th century.





Stirling's royal



kitchens

A daily staple and a symbol of one's status, bread was an essential part of the 16th-century diet, as our hardworking time traveller discovers in the bakehouse of Stirling Castle kitchens

WORDS: MORVERN FRENCH

In the mid-16th century the kitchens at Stirling Castle catered for a whole spectrum of people, from the dowager queen and the privileged few who sat at her table, to the lowliest staff whose hard work kept the castle running.

Now, step back in time to experience the bakehouse: just one part of the complex and well-oiled machine that was the castle kitchens.

You approach Stirling Castle on foot, the magnificent Renaissance edifice looming overhead. You don't enter through the imposing four-towered gatehouse at the front but walk round anti-clockwise, taking a steep climb from the Ballengeich up to a postern – or back – gate. Ascending a turnpike staircase, you emerge into the Nether Bailey, the working area of the castle, with workshops and storerooms.

You're here, not as a guest, but as a member of staff.

To your right, a dog handler escorts a pack of hounds into the kennel block to await their reward for a successful hunt. Burly kitchen porters carry the dogs' prey – a deer from the royal park to the south and west of the castle – on a wooden pole through the North Gate. Upon checking a piece of paper you've brought with you, the guards usher you inside.

Our daily bread

It's the 1540s. The reigning monarch and resident here is the young queen, Mary, daughter of the late King James V. Her mother, the French-born Mary of Guise, maintains a grand court here at Stirling, one of her favoured dower residences, which she acquired on her husband's untimely death.



You follow the porters into the Outer Close and see the Great Hall on your right, its golden yellow colour representing the majesty of the Stewart dynasty.

On your left, you enter the bakehouse, just one of the many rooms of the Great, or Court, Kitchens. A wall of heat hits you as you open the heavy wooden door. Casting your eye around the space, you see several men with their sleeves rolled up, hard at work and each at their own stations.

The atmosphere is one of well-ordered discipline. The room is barrel vaulted, and the walls plastered and whitewashed, giving a bright, clean appearance. The powerful smell of yeast cuts through the air, competing with the warm scent of freshly baked bread.

You approach Stirling Castle on foot, the magnificent Renaissance edifice looming overhead

Modern drone photography can give us more of a bird's-eye view of Stirling Castle than ever before

A middle-aged man turns round, his hands dusted with flour. "Ah, ye'll be the new baxter, then? Come in, come in. Ye're just in time tae help us wi this batch o breid. Ah'm George Gibsoun, by the way. Maister baxter."

George motions towards the table at which he's been working, its surface generously floured in preparation. He takes a large lump of pale brown dough out of a bowl, thumps it down and begins to knead.

"Ye'll ken how tae dae this aready. Wha wis it ye warkit fur afore?"

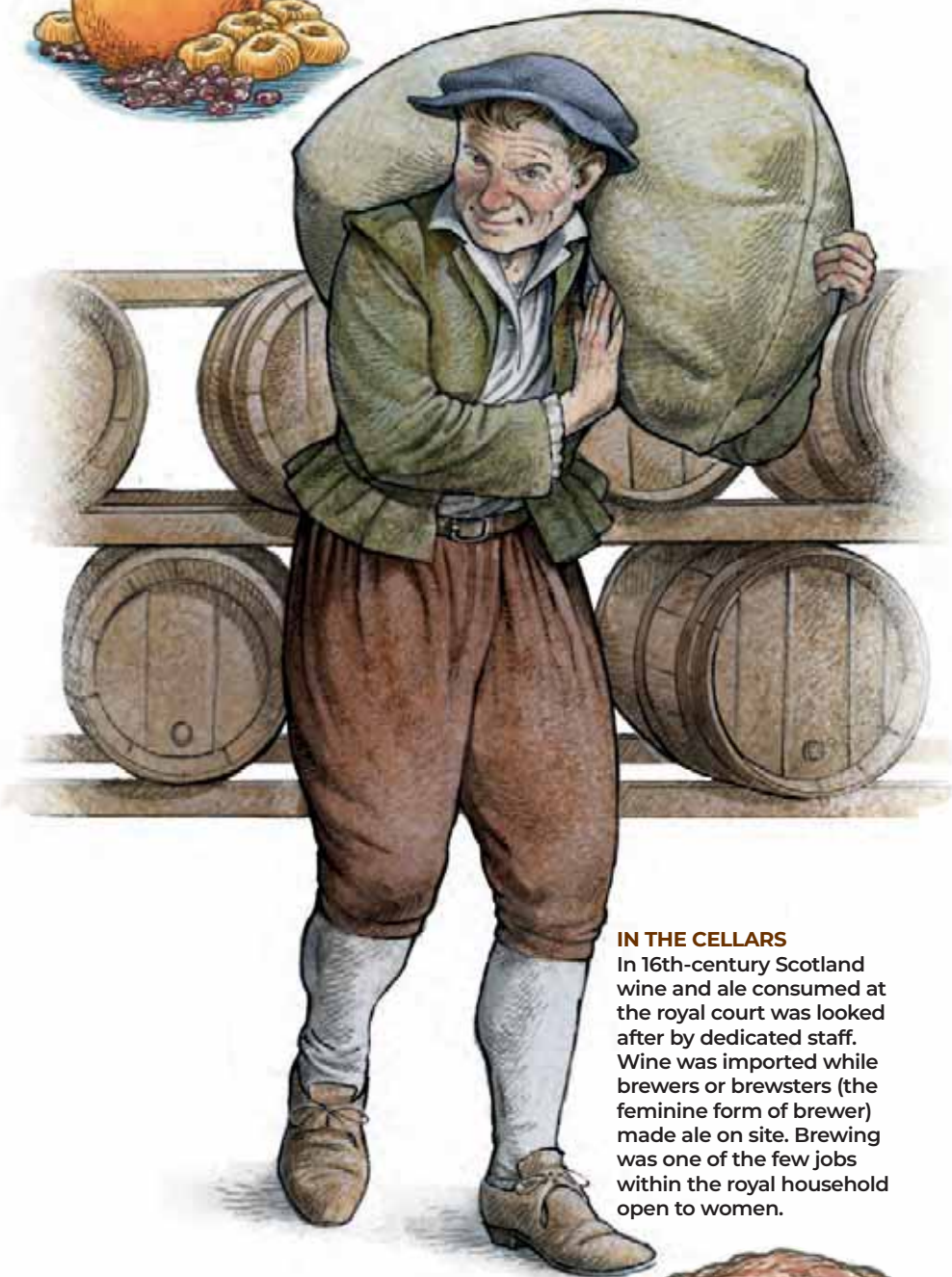
The door swings open and a servant, clutching a leather-bound notebook, holds it open for a commanding, well-dressed gentleman.

"Did ye tak delivery o the wheat flour fur the day? We were due twa bollis, bit ah've heard that only yin arrived," queries the gentleman, his eyes scanning the room.

"Aye, sir," replies George, removing his hat. "We certainly received twa." The servant scribbles some notes in his notebook and the pair take their leave. Everyone in the bakehouse seems to breathe out together.

"That wis Sir John Campbell o Lundy, the maister o the hoosehold. It's up tae him tae mak siccar the kitchens are weel-stocked an that awbdy's fed. Back tae kneadin, noo, syne split the dough intae loaves." George dusts the flour off his hat and puts it back on.

You obey the master baker's commands, working the stretchy dough and setting aside the uncooked loaves on a wooden panel to rise. Another baker takes a different batch of loaves, prepared earlier and already having risen, and slides them into two searingly hot bread ovens, which sit within a large fireplace.



IN THE CELLARS

In 16th-century Scotland wine and ale consumed at the royal court was looked after by dedicated staff. Wine was imported while brewers or brewsters (the feminine form of brewer) made ale on site. Brewing was one of the few jobs within the royal household open to women.

A BIG ROLL IN THE NATIONAL DIET

Bread was the main source of calories and carbohydrates in the 1500s.

It was made using flour, salt, water and yeast. Yeast could be collected from the top of fermenting ale. Loaves of bread were distributed daily to the different departments within Mary of Guise's household.

Most of the servants who lived at court ate light brown, wheaten loaves (*pain commun*), while the dowager queen and her highest status companions and guests ate smaller white rolls (*pain de bouche*). The humblest members of society

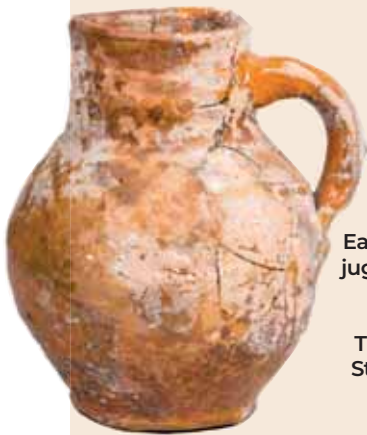
added pease or bean meal and rye flour to supplement wheat flour.



SCOTLAND'S KITCHENWARE



This 16th-century pot from Melrose Abbey may have been used for preparing a posset, a specific remedy for some minor illnesses such as colds



Earthenware jug, probably from the kilns at Throsk near Stirling, 17th century



Cast-iron cauldron found on the beach below Tantallon Castle



Iron eel spear found at Linlithgow Palace

Found at Caerlaverock Castle, a knife used for eating food as well as cutting items



The master baxter – or baker – was a person of some status in the 16th century

More than 200 loaves come out of the Great Kitchens' ovens every day

"Plenty o time tae get thaes oot fur the first dinner service," says George. "In this kitchen we serve the Great Hall. That's whaur maist fowk whae bide an wark in the castle etc. They get muckle brown loaves, or *pain commun*, as the dowager queen's fowk ca it."

"Aye," interjects another baker, "while she an her inner circle git *pain de bouche*, or the finest white breid, made in wee rolls. A dedicated baxter maks them up in the Queen's Kitchens, in the basement o the palace, an she etes it in the rooms abone."

A cook enters the bakehouse and starts making his way through to the larger kitchen beyond.

Knead to know

George asks, "Whit are ye treatin us tae the day?" The cook responds, "Ye'll hae yer pick o beef, venison pastris an calves' feet. The kye cam fae Dunbertane [Dumbarton]. There's cheese an aw, but it's gaun straucht up tae Her Grace. Appillis an peris fur somethin sweet."

Murmurs of anticipation are audible from the bakehouse staff.

Your labour continues, a constant supply of dough waiting to be worked. When your first batch of bread is baked, you open the oven door, sweat dripping down your face. You slide a wooden paddle under the loaves and heave them out, depositing them on an oak dresser to be plated up for serving. Grooms dressed in the royal colours of red and yellow collect the bread through the servery hatch and transport it to the Great Hall.

Several hours of hard work later, the last batch of brown bread has been taken to the hall. More than 200 loaves come out of the Great Kitchens' ovens every day, though the number varies depending on fluctuating attendance at court. Bread makes up a significant part of people's diet.

George, visibly exhausted but proud of the produce of his bakehouse, approaches. "We kitchen staff usually ete here, bit since ye're new ye can ging ower tae the hall an get yer dinner there."

Curious to see if the fruits of your labours are appreciated, you exit the bakehouse. The cold late afternoon air



sends a shiver up your spine. You make your way across the Outer Close and enter the Great Hall through a side door.

Inside, dozens of servants are finishing their meals, accompanied by the bread that you helped to make and washed down with ale made by the castle brewsters and brewers. The diners sit at long tables, the splattered remains of previous services evident on the linen tablecloths. Metal knives and spoons clatter against earthenware dishes, while from one corner the plucking of the strings of a lute can be heard. The hall is filled with the hum of conversation as the castle staff socialise over their meal.

Mopping up

Shafts of light stream in from the high windows along the western side of the hall. Grooms dressed in livery mill about, clearing dirty plates, and cleaners sweep the floor of crumbs. Those nearing the end of their meals use chunks of bread

SCOTS GLOSSARY

Appillis an peris – apples and pears

Baxter – baker

Bollis – plural of boll, which was approximately 90 pints c. 1500

Ete – eat

Kye – cattle

Siccar – sure, certain

to mop up remnants of meaty juices. Any leftovers will be distributed as alms to the paupers congregating outside the castle gates.

Anyone not within the dowager queen's inner circle, or among her favoured guests, eats here, down to the humblest servant, such as the laundresses and the cleaners. There's constant jostling to sit close to and have the ear of the most important people in the room.

You sit down, exhausted, at one of



the tables. Your mouth waters as you fill your empty plate with a generous helping of beef stew, lightly seasoned with Scottish salt and pepper imported from India. You take a loaf of brown bread and tear off a chunk, thinking it appropriate that it should be the first thing you taste. The crust gives way to a satisfyingly soft and still-warm centre with a slightly nutty flavour.

Suddenly, a heavy hand appears on your shoulder. It's George's. "C'mon. We hae tae get redd fur the first supper service."

● **Much of Stirling Castle's Great Kitchens are now gone. They may have extended as far south-west as the Elphinstone Tower and north-east to the North Gate. The upper floors of the North Gate were also used as kitchens in the 1500s. The Queen's Kitchens no longer survive. Look below for information on a brand-new film about these kitchens and their staff that is now being screened at the castle.**



STAR STAFF

A new film for the Great Kitchens at Stirling Castle has recently been installed. It takes visitors back to the 1540s when more than 60 staff worked in the castle's busy network of kitchens to keep the royal household fed and watered. You'll meet five members of the kitchen staff, based on real people who once worked in the kitchens.

The Interpretation Team has also been replacing props in the kitchen spaces to give a boost of colour, as well as adding new graphics, smells, lighting and audio effects. Our upgraded kitchen spaces are sure to provide a feast for the senses.

● **Plan your visit at hes.scot/stirling-castle**





A soldier of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders at Stirling Castle during WWII

Scotland on the frontline

On the 80th anniversary year of VE Day, we look at how the nation's strategically important sites helped bring an end to the Second World War

WORDS: ALLAN CARSWELL



2024

Today Dumbarton Castle is a popular site for visitors rather than a military base



1948

Oblique aerial photograph of Dumbarton Castle taken from the south

This year sees the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, a period which continues to cast a long shadow.

Across Britain and Europe, ideas of national identity, international relations and a shared sense of history all carry the imprint of the war: its victories and defeats, as well as its tragedies. For Scotland, this lingering effect is no different.

The war, of course, didn't happen in a vacuum. It was part of a long continuum of history. It is therefore fitting to explore one aspect of Scotland's experience – how some of the nation's most historic sites found themselves on the frontline, and how their strategic significance was both revived and put to new purpose.

On the defensive

One of the first steps taken in Scotland on the outbreak of war in 1939 was to bolster the nation's defences. Modern war had brought with it new weapons

and new threats, the most chilling of which was aerial bombing. Not only were military sites going to be attacked; cities, civilian populations and industrial centres were now targets.

This new threat resulted in two ancient fortifications being reactivated, both of them in the industrial heartland of the west of Scotland – Dumbarton Castle and Crookston Castle. The strategic value of the former, located on a massive volcanic rock where the River Leven meets the River Clyde, has been recognised since the Iron Age. By 1939, the castle was surrounded by shipyards and an important aircraft factory – likely targets for German attack. So an anti-aircraft gun was moved to the Beak, the eastern peak of Dumbarton Rock.

The gun's crew took over the old barrack rooms of the castle, as well as a newly built hut near the gun site. These new defenders were strictly warned against kicking footballs in the barrack rooms and corridors, probably as much to preserve 'good military order and discipline' as out of respect for the ancient fabric of the building.



Wartime poster still at Dumbarton Castle



A survey of 'Camp Crookston' will be carried out this August by the Friends of Crookston Castle supported by HES and the Castle Studies Trust

On the night of 6 May 1941, the castle was attacked by German aircraft, with four high explosive bombs dropped on the rock. The main target was probably the shipyards and port facilities of Greenock, which were heavily attacked, along with the town, on the nights of 6 and 7 May. Minor damage was caused to most of the historic buildings of the castle. However, a 70ft (21m) length of wall on the eastern side of the castle was completely destroyed.

Initially, Crookston Castle was put to a similar use. The late 15th-century tower, south-west of Glasgow, was commandeered in 1940 as an observation post for the local Home Guard, who were watching for German parachute landings. Again, shipyards on the upper Clyde and the massive Rolls Royce aero engine factory at nearby Hillington were seen as vulnerable targets. However, as the tide of the war turned around 1942, from pure defence to future offence, Crookston found itself in the midst of further wartime activity.

Taking the offensive

The entry of the US into the war in December 1941 was critical to this shift. It was soon manifested by the arrival of US troops, aircraft and ships in Britain, all in preparation for a re-entry into occupied Europe and the opening of the 'Second Front' in the war against Germany.

As a major transatlantic port since the mid-18th century, the Clyde became the entry point for these reinforcements – thousands of troops and tonnes of desperately needed military equipment. To handle this influx, a network of transit camps, storage depots and other support facilities had to be built. Termed 'BOLERO Camps', after the codename



German aerial reconnaissance image of the Rolls Royce factory at Hillington

for the overall US build-up, many of these facilities were sited on the south-west fringes of Glasgow.

From 1943, Crookston Castle was surrounded by a large US Army camp, named, incongruously, 'Camp Crookston'. Here top-secret weapons and stores were martialled before shipment south. A large temporary hospital was also located there before moving to a nearby site at Cowglen.

Continuing public access to the castle caused no end of annoyance to the US authorities and, eventually, the castle was closed off completely in early 1944. One particular complaint was that, "a full and complete view of the camp can be seen from the top of

Shipyards on the upper Clyde and the massive Rolls Royce aero engine factory were seen as vulnerable targets

the castle and photographs could be made at will of this installation, including the Ordnance Depot and its secret equipment". The castle's strategic position was once again, even if inadvertently, asserting itself...

Training hard

By spring 1944, the build-up for the Second Front was complete. On 6 June, 'D-Day', the Allied invasion of France began. Preparations for this, still the largest amphibious military operation in history, were of course not confined to the US Army. The British forces had long been developing training, techniques and equipment for this most complex form of warfare. Here, Scotland had figured large.

The main training centre for Combined Operations was established in 1940 at Inverary – more than 100,000 troops then passed through the rigorous course. The Ayrshire coast was also heavily used for specialist training by the newly formed commando units. The west



LAND AND SEA

At Fort George (left) a series of amphibious exercises were carried out through the winter of 1943-44. Landforces commander, General Sir Bernard Montgomery, visited the Fort on 5 December 1943 to address a parade of 2,772 troops who were stationed there.



Highlands were the location for more secretive special operations training.

As planning for D-Day developed, even larger training areas were needed to practise beach assaults. Again, another 'ancient monument' was given a new use. Fort George, the massive (if forbidding) mid-18th-century fortification on the southern shore of the Moray Firth – built, in part, to defend against French invasion – became, in a quirk of history, a base for training for an invasion of France. From the autumn of 1944, the fort (then, as now, used as a barracks) was part of an extensive training area for Britain's 3rd Infantry Division, one of the 17,000-strong assault divisions earmarked to land on D-Day itself.

The south coast of the Moray Firth was to stand in for the Normandy beaches, while the north shore was to replicate the planned embarkation points on England's Channel coast. The fort became a temporary home to units of the 27th Armoured Brigade, attached to the 3rd Division.



General Montgomery, pictured left (middle) at the RNAS Hatston military airfield in Orkney, made morale-boosting visits across the UK in the lead up to D-Day in 1944. Below: Fort George today





Stirling Castle depot staff, mainly from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders

STIRLING WAR EFFORT

Stirling Castle saw many new occupants during the Second World War. Since 1881, the castle had served as the depot of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, where recruits received their basic training. By 1941, however, this training function had been moved elsewhere.

The castle was then occupied by a succession of headquarters, medical and support units.

A particular feature of the Armed Forces in the Second World War was the greatly increased role of women. By December 1941 all unmarried women aged between 20 and 30 who were not already

employed in 'war work' were to be conscripted. Though barred from combat roles, these women freed up thousands of men for frontline service. Roles ranged from administrative staff to drivers and mechanics. Many also formed crews for anti-aircraft defences.

Women attached to the Army served as part of the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS), and, in 1943, Stirling Castle became the headquarters for an ATS group. Many worked in the castle in the local Area Headquarters, while some served in other military facilities in the area.



Many women were conscripted as part of the war effort



Soldiers march towards Stirling Castle, past Bruce's statue

Accounts in the archives record first impressions of the fort as being “like a Foreign Legionnaire seeing his first glimpse of a Foreign Legion fort in the desert”.

Units of the 27th Brigade were equipped with top-secret, duplex-drive amphibious tanks, or ‘Donald Duck tanks’ as they were nicknamed. These vehicles were fitted with an innovative twin-drive system, which enabled them to travel through water under their own power using a propeller and an elaborate extending canvas screen. These tanks would be launched from their landing craft while still at sea and then make their way to the beach – a dangerous task, especially in rough weather.

Around the fort, concrete landing stages, or ‘hards’, were built for the embarkation and disembarkation of tanks and other vehicles onto landing craft. Another account from the archives mentions that, “The tank park, however, was a nightmare; and situated on the north-east of the fort on the hards, it caught the full blast of every wind straight from the Arctic Circle.”

A series of large-scale amphibious exercises were carried out through the winter of 1943–44. The entire division was loaded onto landing craft at Chanonry Point on the Black Isle and at the fort and then landed on the beaches of Culbin Sands under operational conditions. The last of these was successfully carried out on 30–31 March 1944, just two months prior to D-Day itself.



Modern-day view of Edinburgh Castle's barracks, which housed wounded prisoners of war in 1944

By the outbreak of war, most of Edinburgh Castle's barracks had been given over to use as a military hospital

A notable event during this period was a visit to the 3rd Division by General Sir Bernard Montgomery, recently appointed as commander of the land forces for the forthcoming invasion. On 5 December, he toured various units including those at Fort George, where he addressed a parade of 2,772 troops.

Elsewhere in Scotland, the Second Front was also having an impact. Edinburgh Castle was playing its part.

The British Army had maintained its presence in the castle after the main garrison had been withdrawn in 1923. By the outbreak of war in 1939, most of the former barrack accommodation had been given over to use as a military hospital, with capacity increased in 1940 from 145 to 250 beds. In April 1944, this role was modified to receive a predicted influx of enemy wounded, with all but 50 beds given over to prisoners of war.

Prisoner patients

On 18 June 1944, the first German patients were received from the Normandy battlefields. Two captured German interpreters were made available to the medical staff. By mid-July, two captured German Army medical officers had also arrived to help treat their own personnel.

This change in use clearly caused some anxiety in the senior command. During June, plans were drawn up for an elaborate series of barbed-wire fences and security gates cutting the hospital off from the rest of the castle. These don't seem to have been installed – perhaps the mobility of the wounded patients and their appetite for escape may have made such precautions unnecessary. Certainly, after almost five long years, most people, on both sides, were just ready for it all to end.

● Find more images on trove.scot and ncap.org.uk, and visit the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Museum at Stirling Castle



US Army Air Force personnel investigate Mons Meg, c.1943



A piece of woven history



Discover our new and exclusive Urquhart Castle tartan, launched this spring

Inspired by the dramatic Highlands landscape, this new tartan range is the perfect blend of bold and harmonious colours. Designed by Inverness-based Prickly Thistle and woven by Lochcarron of Scotland, the textiles in this collection are a fitting tribute to the rich heritage of Urquhart Castle, and to Scotland's weaving history.

Prickly Thistle specialise in creating unique storytelling designs and they have developed a tartan inspired by Urquhart Castle's magnificent location on the shores of Loch Ness.

Deep blues and verdant greens evoke the castle's serene beauty and storied past. A bold teal blue reflects the loch's tranquil waters,



while darker hues weave in a sense of the castle's enduring strength and imposing presence. A buttery yellow accent warmly unites the whole design.

The textiles range is complemented by a selection of traditional Scottish treats, also packaged in the bespoke Urquhart Castle tartan, including a shortbread box by Aberdeen family business The Kindness Bakery, whisky chasers, whisky cake, chocolate bars, tea and tablet. Enjoy a well-rounded sensory experience with some of Scotland's finest products, steeped in heritage and tradition, and crafted with care.

The full Urquhart Castle collection is available to buy now at the Urquhart Castle gift shop. The textiles range is also available online at stor.scot



1. Wool scarf **£32**
2. Tartan tam **£35**
3. Tartan tie **£28**
4. Fine wool scarf **£72**



Loch Ness's Highland Cows

Meet the stars of our latest advertising campaign, the Highland cows of Iain MacLeod, who farms near Urquhart Castle.

The eighth generation to be working his family croft in the Drumnadrochit area, Iain has opened his farm to visitors for an up-close-and-personal Highland cow experience.

Visitors get to meet and feed the coos then chat with Iain about his hardy fold (not herd!), whose lineage goes back 100 years, and life on a working croft. (Did you know that the bigger the horns, the older the cow?)

Iain very kindly allowed us to carry out our Urquhart Castle tartan photoshoot on his croft, which enjoys stunning views across Loch Ness to Urquhart Castle itself.

You can follow Iain's Highland cows on Instagram [@lochnesshighlandcows](https://www.instagram.com/lochnesshighlandcows)



Golfing greats

In partnership with St Andrews Links, we are excited to be the official stockist of St Andrews Links golfing merchandise at Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, Urquhart Castle and, of course, St Andrews Castle

For more than 600 years St Andrews Links has evolved, much like the game of golf itself. It now features seven public courses, and the St Andrews Links Trust also manages a number of other facilities, including a golf academy, three clubhouses and four shops.

As a charitable trust, all purchases of St Andrews Links' official merchandise

contribute towards the maintenance of the golf courses, including the world-famous Old Course.

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JUNE-SEPTEMBER

WHAT'S ON

DAYTIME
EVENTS ARE
FREE FOR
MEMBERS

MAKE SUMMER SPECIAL

From medieval thrills and spills to open-air theatre and members' exclusive tours

Spectacular Jousting

LINLITHGOW PALACE

CAERLAVEROCK CASTLE

Experience exhilarating horse riding and impressive skills as courageous medieval knights battle it out. Hear the thundering of hooves and clashing of lances as our champions take to the arena for this spectacular show. Wander through the

living history camp to experience life in medieval times and view birds of prey in flight.

● *Linlithgow Palace, Sat 28 & Sun 29 June, 11.30am-4.30pm. Advance booking required.*

● *Caerlaverock Castle, Sat 26 & Sun 27 July, 11am-4pm.*

Celebration of the Centuries

FORT GEORGE

Our largest reenactment event is back, with reenactors bringing the mighty Fort George to life with a living timeline depicting more than 2,000 years of Scottish history.

One of the highlights of this year's event will be a Bruce-themed jousting show.

● *Sat 9 & Sun 10 August, 11am-5pm.*

On Location

BLACKNESS CASTLE

One of Scotland's most impressive strongholds, Blackness has served as an artillery fortress, royal castle, prison and armaments depot. More recently, it has starred in films and TV series, from *Mary Queen of Scots* (2018) and *Outlaw King* (2018) to *Outlander*. Join us to learn about the movie magic that brings history to life. Our crew will be on hand to help you



practise stunt work or try on costumes. And maybe the director will pick you out to be the star!

● *Sat 30 & Sun 31 August, 12 noon-4pm.*



Getting fired up at Fort George

The excitement of
medieval jousting at
Linlithgow Palace



Celebrate 2,000 years
of Scotland's history



MALCOLM MCCURRACH/
ELLIOT ROBERTS



OUT AND ABOUT

Visiting Vikings

DUMBARTON CASTLE

Come along to the castle and encounter Viking warriors to find out more about their weapons and invasion techniques. You'll also learn what life was like for these seafaring Norsemen and why they came to Dumbarton.

● Sat 14 & Sun 15 June, 12 noon-4pm.

Leith Festival Open Day

TRINITY HOUSE

During Leith Festival week we'll be opening our doors to the public. Visitors can take a self-guided tour, watch a film about Leith's maritime history and see the fascinating historical objects relating to life at sea. There are activities for younger visitors, and during Leith Festival Gala Day we'll also have a stall on Leith Links, where people can learn more about Trinity House.

● Sat 14 June, 11am-4pm.

Soldiers, Gardens and Ghosts 1650

EDZELL CASTLE

Explore this fascinating site which will be brought to life by a 17th-century encampment. See and hear the musketry and cannons displayed by the soldiers, and try your hand at handling a pike. You can also join a tour to learn about the castle, its garden and its ghost.

● Sat 28 & Sun 29 June, 12 noon-4pm.



Hear about soldiers and ghosts at Edzell Castle



Meet vikings at Dumbarton

Seeds of Time: Scottish Gardens 1600 to Present Day

FORT GEORGE

This exhibition, using material from our archives, explores what we can learn about Scotland from our gardens. It covers everything from the 'grand design' of the aristocracy to the role of empire in revolutionising plant diversity at home.

● Wed 2 July-Mon 20 October, during site opening hours.

Gordons through the Ages

HUNTLY CASTLE

Journey through the centuries at Huntly Castle and meet members of the Gordon family. Find out how the 4th Earl of Huntly fell out of grace with Mary Queen of Scots and learn how the 2nd Marquis of Huntly was a major

player during the Wars of the Three Kingdoms.

● Sat 19 & Sun 20 July, 12 noon-4pm.

Roman Doors Open Day

KINNEIL HOUSE

Visit the Antonine Guard, who will set up camp in the grounds of Kinneil House and show visitors weaponry, armour and fighting techniques. Take a self-guided tour of the house, including the Renaissance period kitchen, 16th-century painted rooms and the Antonine Wall exhibition. The Friends of Kinneil will be supporting HES and providing craft activities.

● Sat 27 September, 10am-4pm.



Star globe at Trinity House

TO SEE OUR FULL EVENTS PROGRAMME, VISIT [HES.SCOT/EVENTS](https://www.hes.scot/events)

THEATRE AND MUSIC

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

STIRLING CASTLE

Join the Scottish Chamber Orchestra for an unforgettable evening of classical music in the historic grandeur of Stirling Castle's Great Hall. This concert promises to captivate music lovers

of all ages with music by Schubert, Mozart and Lars-Erik Larsson.

● *Thu 26 June, 8pm-10pm, doors 7.15pm. 10% members discount.*

Twelfth Night

DUFF HOUSE

Shipwrecked and separated from her twin brother, Viola

disguises herself as a man and becomes entwined in a hilarious love triangle. Revel in the comedic chaos of mistaken identities and enjoy a lively outdoor atmosphere filled with fun and live music.

● *Thu 10 July, 7pm-9.30pm. 10% members discount.*



See *Pride and Prejudice* at Elgin Cathedral

Pride and Prejudice

ELGIN CATHEDRAL

Lizzy finds disdainful Mr Darcy detestable. Or does she? Can she see beyond his prejudice and overcome her pride to consider a possible future together? Award-winning Illyria returns to celebrate Jane Austen's 250th birthday in sparkling style. Bring a picnic and enjoy her at her vibrant best.

● *Tue 26 August, 7pm-9pm, doors 6.15pm. 10% members discount.*



MEMBERS' EXCLUSIVE EVENTS

Historical Baking at Kinneil House

KINNEIL HOUSE

Step into history with this unique and immersive Members' Exclusive tour of Kinneil House. Join us as we explore the history of this remarkable building and the Hamilton family who once called it home. Members will get a guided tour of the house, and you'll also go back in time to meet a historical baker in the house's kitchen wing. Explore traditional baking practices from days gone by and learn how bread was crafted at Kinneil House. Then indulge in a taste of

history by sampling some freshly baked treats.

● *Sat 5 July, 10.30am-12 noon, 1pm-2.30pm, 3pm-4.30pm.*

Unlocking Glenbuchat Castle

GLENBUCHAT CASTLE

This hidden gem in the Scottish Highlands is just a stone's throw from Royal Deeside. The castle grounds are open to visitors but few have the opportunity to venture inside the castle to discover its secrets. This tour will take you to the castle's hidden corners, revealing the stories within its walls.



Go behind the scenes at Elgin Cathedral

You'll also have the opportunity to take a guided tour of the scaffolding for a closer look at restoration work being carried out.

● *Thu 14 August, 3pm-4.30pm.*

Unveiling the Lantern of the North

ELGIN CATHEDRAL

Join us for a behind-the-scenes tour led by our District Architect at Elgin Cathedral. Delve deeper into the heart of the

NEIL HANNA/MALCOLM MCCURRACH/
NEW WAVE IMAGES



Shakespeare's
Twelfth Night comes
to Duff House

DON'T FORGET...

Members' Exclusive Events have limited capacity and must be booked online in advance. Head to hes.scot/member-events to book and make sure you log in first.

'Lantern of the North' and find out more about the works that will preserve Elgin Cathedral for centuries to come. Venture into rarely seen areas of the cathedral and get a first-hand look from the scaffolding (hard hats provided) for a truly unique perspective.
● Thu 28 August, 3pm-4.30pm.

ORKNEY EVENTS

Peedie Pot Workshop

MAESHOWE VISITOR CENTRE

Have a go at making pottery in the heart of Neolithic Orkney! Using examples from Skara Brae and Ness of Brodgar, learn how to make and decorate pots in the same grooved ware style as people in Orkney did 5,000 years ago.

● Sun 13 July, 11am-3pm.

Carved Ball Making

MAESHOWE VISITOR CENTRE

Drop into Maeshowe Visitor



Create a
carved ball at
Maeshowe

Centre to decorate your own stone carved balls to take home, and learn more about the original objects found at

Skara Brae and other Neolithic sites.

● Sun 3 August & Sun 14 September, 11am-3pm.

EXPLORE OUTDOORS

Ranger Walks

Get out and about with our Rangers this summer, with many fun activities taking place. From our Art and Stories Day in Holyrood Park and Family Adventures at Linlithgow to learning about geology and wildlife there's something for everyone.

● Pre-booking for some of these activities is advised.

Orkney Rangers

Walk back through five millennia of fascinating history and prehistory when you join the Orkney Rangers Service on their free walks at the Ring of Brodgar, the Stones of Stenness and Barnhouse Village throughout the summer.

● No booking required for Orkney Rangers Service walks.



The
Neolithic
Ring of
Brodgar

FULL DETAILS AT [HES.SCOT/RANGER-SERVICE](https://hes.scot/ranger-service)

Find more
images
of bygone
boating
at trove.scot



Children at the seaside, possibly Ayr, from a family collection



Departing from the docks at Broomielaw



Enjoying a paddle at Troon Beach in 1907



The *Waverley* berthed at Rothesay Pier, Isle of Bute, 1967

SUMMER

LET'S GO DOON THE WATTER

WORDS: JOE WATERFIELD

Summer is here! Nowadays, a sunny day in Glasgow is 'taps aff' weather for some, but for Glasgow residents in the 19th and 20th centuries, the coming of the sun conjured a different phrase: 'doon the watter'.

During that time, boats known as Clyde Steamers would take passengers from Glasgow along the River Clyde, into the Firth of Clyde and on to such popular destinations as Dunoon and Rothesay. Excursions such as this became known as going doon the

watter and were popular with day trippers and holidaymakers alike.

What began as a network of paddle steamers and horse-drawn coaches evolved with the coming of the railways, which connected travellers to the Clyde Steamers at stations such as Wemyss Bay.

As overseas package holidays and car travel became more accessible from the 1960s, the holiday tastes of Glaswegians changed, and steaming down the Clyde would never be as popular as it had once been.

Images such as these from our archive collections offer a fascinating glimpse of the Clyde Steamers and their passengers from the first half of the 20th century.

You can recreate these journeys today, travelling by train and ferry, or even aboard the *Waverley*, the resilient paddle steamer which first plied the Clyde in 1946. As you roll down the river, look out for our properties in care, such as Dumbarton Castle, Newark Castle in Port Glasgow and Rothesay Castle on the Isle of Bute.